

PARIZEAU'S SHAKY START

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 20, 1995 \$3.50

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A man with dark, curly hair, wearing a dark suit and a patterned scarf, is smiling at the camera. A woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a light-colored jacket and a dark scarf, is leaning in and kissing him on the cheek. The background is plain white.

Is Dating Dead?

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but it sure has
changed





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COVER PHOTO: STEPHEN M. HARRIS

Is dating dead?

38 In the disillusioned 1990s, Valentine's Day survives but dating in the traditional sense faces a litany of challenges, from the threat of date rape to the spread of AIDS. Some adults are logging on to love from the safe distance provided by computer bulletin-board services, while others approach it cautiously through newspaper classifieds and voice-mail dating.



Parizeau's shaky start

12 Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau launched an ambitious series of visiting commissions designed to whip up support for sovereignty. But the first week offered little evidence of widespread public enthusiasm.

Reality bites

24 In the weeks leading up to the federal budget, lobbyists for special-interest groups have been reserved in their predictions for Finance Minister Paul Martin. The consensus is simply that the deficit must be reduced.



Growing Up

There are still profound grievances in Quebec, but the 20 years since the flag debate have been ones in which the French presence in national life has expressed dramatically—spurred by the election of Pierre Elliott Trudeau to Parliament in November, 1965—and Quebecers themselves have made their language as secure as it can possibly be in a shrinking world.

Raising the Dog in 1983:
Canada Day (top left) studies

current charges of

Raising the flag not only ended a bitter chapter in Canada's public life, it was the symbol of a new start for a nation that had a lot of growing up to do. Thirty years later, it is useful to be reminded how far a nation can move when it is willing to embrace the future.

Media critic George Fier's monthly Media Watch column returns this week following Fier's latest to write *Gottlieb: How the Media Destroyed the King*, a well-received critique of his brother.

Robert Louis

Small Centres and Ancient Villages
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LETTERS

Trial and error

I was disappointed at the poor choice of your cover image for "DNA on trial" (Feb. 6). Why is G. J. Simpson figured so prominently, while Guy Paul Morin is on the lower left in relative obscurity? I am one of many who are sick of the whole G. J. case.

Don Trembl
Kelowna, BC

First Donald Marshall, then David Milgaard, and now the gross miscarriage of justice for Guy Paul Morin proves that our justice system has improved in that at a Third World banana republic. The Crown seems to have suppressed key evidence that might have exonerated Morin instead they steamrolled ahead and managed to create a case leading to his conviction. No amount of money can adequately compensate Guy Paul.

Jim Labarene
Saskatoon, Sask

Poetic licence

In the review of Margaret Atwood's new book of poems, *Mosses*, in the *Barrow News*, you write: "All of English literature holds only one example of a major novelist who was also an important poet. Thomas Hardy" ("Winter of the soul" Books, Feb. 6). This statement is not true. W. G. Sebald, an English poet and novelist, was also a poet. What is a more serious mistake, however, is implying that Atwood approaches Thomas Hardy in importance as a novelist. Atwood is just not in the same league as Hardy, whose works are genuine masterpieces. As for content, much of Atwood's work has been veniaed by her leftist ideology and tendentious radical feminism.

J. Rye
Brampton, Ont

Job prospects

If "machines are reducing the overall number of jobs" ("Lining up for work," Corri, Jan. 22)—who benefits?

Michael MacDonald
Edmonton

As a Canadian professional engineer currently on assignment in Saudi, I was unimpressed by your article "Lining up the unemployed."



Morin they steam-rolled ahead, to create a case leading to his conviction

Our daughter obtained her bachelor's degree in 1992 and was also unable to find employment in Canada. After six months, she came to visit us and was pleased to find a great demand for university graduates from North America to teach English as a second language. No training was required—just a university degree in any field. By responding to ads in Saudi's English language newspapers, she received three offers from these applications in one week.

David Freeman
Saskatoon

Navel gazing

If ever proof were needed that *Meekins* has no earthly idea of what this country is about, your Feb. 6 issue provided it. Full-article coverage was given to a society murder in Calgary ("High-society shooting," Business), while the killing of one of the most massive amounts of environmental degradation in Canadian history, the Kenmore Complex Project, ruled out a similar item ("Kenmore scrapped," Canada News). It's little wonder that people in British Columbia continually feel utterly ignored by the Central Canada-controlled media—they feel that way because they are.

Paul Mac
Vancouver

Polar ambassador

I enjoyed and appreciated the article about the admirable career and important tasks of Mary Simon, Canada's new circumpolar ambassador ("The Arctic advocate," Canada, Feb. 6). The piece ignored an important part of her portfolio, however: Canada's long tradition of Arctic research, but as

important part is the international management, scientific exploration and commercial protection of that magnificent continent. Simon will play an important role in that effort, and her duties in that context should be widely recognized.

Peter Strohfeld
Chairman, Executive Committee,
Canadian Arctic Research Program,
Vancouver, BC

Feminist influence

Thank goodness Barbara Ansel has two X chromosomes. She did a fantastic job of cutting to the quick and dispensing a considerable amount of fog in her column "Barbed feminism and G. J. Simpson" (Columns, Feb. 6). If a woman had written such a commentary and politically incorrect article, it would likely be her last. Women with guts are society's last chance for a return to sanity.

Mark Veldall
Vancouver, BC

I would like to distance myself from Barbara Ansel and the "naughty women" whose claims are barely restrained their corset thoughts while watching G. J. Simpson on trial. Here is a man who is either guilty of brutally murdering two people, or who is trying to prove his innocence. The first option is wickedness; the second is breathtaking. Neither one is very easy. "Brenda's prison pal?" Switch channels, Barbara. You're looking for the soap. This is real life.

Scudie Gil
Vancouver, BC

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OPENING NOTES

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Shillingford at Cypress Bowl: "such an exorbitant fee is outrageous"

MOUNTAINS OF RESENTMENT

Winter conditions at West Vancouver's Cypress Provincial Park have been the envy of Canada in recent weeks. In a state of clear skies, mild temperatures and lots of snow, visitors to the scenic mountain site overlooking Vancouver see harnessed skiers, snowboarders and hikers. At the same time, the park's mountain side is a place of anger, resentment and defiance. It's a place where hikers and backpackers often simply wait to walk across the area managed by the company on their way to public trails beyond. Michael Shillingford, a 30-year-old computer consultant, says that the hikers were charged the price of a one-day lift ticket—\$21—and that means that it would cost a family of four more than \$120 to go for a walk in the woods. "It charges such an exorbitant fee is outrageous,"

says Shillingford. But Mayor Bono, general manager for Cypress Bowl Recreation, argues that he has a right to charge non-paying hikers who are filling his already overcrowded parking lot. "They hike all with their lunch in their backpack," says Bono, "so the skier who is willing to buy lift tickets and pay \$20 stays home." Bono says that regulation could solve the problem, but so far B.C. Parks has not agreed to that option, which would mean taking down a rare old-growth forest. Three days after the company introduced the charge—they say it's only \$15, the price of a one-hour lift ticket—hikers launched a protest for lunch of defiance. Since the company built a 10-year lease on the property, the fact that Cypress Bowl is for a continuing treaty political climate.

90

THE FLAG DEBATE

THIRTY YEARS AGO: On Feb. 15, 1985, Canada's new flag, a red-and-white banner with a stylized maple leaf, is hoisted for the first time over Parliament Hill. Although the flag is intended as a symbol of Canadian unity, the debate that preceded the official unfurling is one of the bitterest ever to rage in Ottawa and across Canada. As early as 1825, even after Canada had begun flying the Red Ensign, Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King appointed a committee to investigate possible designs for a distinctly Canadian flag. Prime Minister Lester Pearson takes up the issue in 1960, resulting in a new banner that symbolizes an independent Canada.



John Diefenbaker and the Conservatives desired that any new flag include both the Union Jack and the fleur-de-lis to honor the "founding races." After other designs are rejected, a 15-member all-party committee recommends the "Maple Leaf," a design by Herbert Groom. After 250 speeches, the House of Commons votes 150 to 16 at 3:13 a.m. on Dec. 15, 1964, to accept the committee's recommendation.

A QUESTION OF ETHICS

It's a tangle of a vice-regal trap! In 1991, when Bill Jackman, honorary chairman of National Trustco Inc., became lieutenant governor of Ontario, many professional ethicists said he should leave the company. He refused, arguing that because he owns 47 percent of the firm, he could not step aside. And federal ethics counselor Howard Wilson has been lecturing Jackman ever since. Wilson says that under federal guidelines, lieutenant governors are not supposed to place their holdings in blind trusts. But he says Jackman has violated the guidelines by regularly attending Trustco's management meetings. Now, Jackman says he has a legal opinion that found his actions above-board. The source of that opinion? None other



Jackman, regularly attending meetings since former prime minister John Turner. And some ethicists are supporting Jackman. Michael Drex, an ethicist at the University of Toronto, says the issue may have more to do with jealousy than honesty. Some people, he says, try to "keep clean" the wealthy. But Jackman, it seems, won't fall easily.

PASSAGES

SETTLING (By Diana, Princess of Wales, 33), a privacy suit against a London athletic club owner and the Mirror Group Newspapers over the unauthorized taking and use of photographs of her walking out on exercise machines in London. As part of the settlement, all copies and negatives of the 1993 photographs, taken by a camera hidden in the club's ceiling, and published around the world, must be returned to her lawyers. All money earned from the sale of the photos is to be turned over to Diana who says she will donate to charity any funds remaining after her legal costs. When told of the settlement during a visit in Japan, Diana said she launched the suit to protect her own sense from media intrusion. "I had never been about money," she said. "I am not concerned about my money. I do not want them to suffer in the way I have."

DON'T TURNER (Arkansas Senator J. William Fulbright, 80, who led the anti-Vietnam War forces in Congress in the late 1950s and early 1970s, and was named vice-president to President Bill Clinton, at his Washington home. Among the critical books written by the 15-year chairman of the powerful Senate foreign relations committee was the 1968 best-seller *The Arrogance of Power*. Clinton, while an undergraduate at Washington's George town University, served as Fulbright's tutor in 1966 and 1967.

APPOINTMENT: Award-winning journalist Brenda Hubbs, 66, director of education for TVA, Quebec's largest private TV network, in Montreal, Quebec, a frequent reviewer of *Le Devoir* since September, 1992.

CONVICTION: Former all-star baseball player Danny Sawchuk, 37, of evading income tax on more than \$470,000 earned from anti-grain campaigns and other personal appearances, is a plea bargain to return for a three-month prison sentence, in a White Plains, N.Y., federal court. Earlier, Sawchuk, who has a history of drug abuse, was suspended for 30 days by Major League Baseball and released by the San Francisco Giants after serving positive for cocaine.

DON'T ASK: Award-winning American poet James Merrill, 66, of a heart attack, while on vacation in Tucson, Ariz. Among his 18 books, 15 of them poetry, is his critically acclaimed 1992 memoir *A Different Poetry*, which deals with his coming to terms with his family's great wealth and his homosexuality.

HAMMING IT UP

Decades after becoming one of the first Canadian television performers to become an international star, Hanny Hanauer is staging his big comeback. "I never really went away," says the 55-year-old in a voice now barely similar to that of vibrant onetime Paul Sorvino. "I was out doing my own thing down by the overbank." The original *Tales of the Greenback*, which aired from 1969 to 1985, was seen in 30 countries and was dubbed into Cantonese and Russian, among other languages. Over *Open a Hanny*, the new se-



ries, which went on air earlier this month, is co-produced in Toronto by the youth-oriented MTV network. After being up for a decade, the acting was finally right again for his brand of entertainment, exuding charisma. "The late 1980s were a violent, selfish time, and we're so grateful," he says of the half-hour children's program, which includes such highlights as the critics going to a sign in Ontario's car. In the updated series, Hanny and his friends—the new include female characters—also harness environmentally friendly wind power and recycle overbank debris. Hanny's ultimate nod to the 1990s, however, is his plans to begin merchandising a line of books and toys. Like all good creations of the Newtans, Hanny is watching that bottom line.

SKATING PROTOCOL

More proof that membership in the exclusive club of Olympic athletes has improved the way we live. Early last week, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien was all dressed up with somewhere important to go—his appointment to meet government ministers and members of the House of Commons—when he was rescued from a crowd of several vendors, but unwanted guests, who had arrived at the front gate of his residence at 24 Sussex Drive. The visitors included the former Canadian national women's skating champion Jeanne Charest.



and four friends, fresh from a skating party at Rialto Hall. "Send them all at once," Chrétien's aide reports he bawled out, the first senior. Then, the delighted Chrétien, a fan of Charest, told his secret not to look for the group on a tour of the official residence. He reported the up and down of the year. "I didn't even ask them to take off their boots." Their hour complete, the group clambered back into their van and drove off home to Montreal. And Chrétien once again declared us to winter coat and scarf, made it his Ottawa.

From station past in time to meet the arriving Lillies—and to stifle other passengers, appeared for the spectacle of being greeted by a prime minister.

Charest, a welcome, if unwanted, guest

Added by BARBARA NICKENS

BEST-SELLERS

FICITION

1. *The Colours of Time*, James Redford 14
2. *Black, White, Silver*, James Redford 14
3. *Open Secrets*, Alex Mace 10
4. *Spider's World*, James Redford 10
5. *Politically Correct*, William S. Burroughs, Jr. 10
6. *Acquainted with the Past*, Fred 10
7. *The Goodbye Girl*, James Redford 10
8. *Private Wars*, James Redford 10
9. *A Dictionary of Untranslatable*, Judy 10
10. *Paths, Crossings*, James Redford 10

11. *Private Wars*, James Redford 10

NONFICTION

1. *On the Edge*, James Redford 10
2. *The Waves*, William S. Burroughs, Jr. 10
3. *I Want to Tell You*, J. S. Burroughs 10
4. *Monks in the World*, William S. Burroughs, Jr. 10
5. *Concerning the Threshold of Power*, James Redford 10
6. *Private Wars*, James Redford 10
7. *Open Secrets*, Alex Mace 10
8. *Acquainted with the Past*, Fred 10
9. *The Goodbye Girl*, James Redford 10
10. *Private Wars*, James Redford 10

Compiled by Steve DeLancey

POP MOVIES

Top movies in Canada, according to box office receipts during the seven days that ended on Feb. 9 (in brackets, number of weekend-weekend showings)

1. *Legends of the Fall* (50/10) 204,180
2. *Boys on the Side* (50/10) 184,140
3. *Murder in the First* (50/10) 173,742
4. *In the Mouth of Madness* (50/10) 158,070
5. *Home Alone* (50/10) 152,380
6. *The Juvies* (50/10) 137,770
7. *Highlander 2: Final Dimension* (50/10) 130,180
8. *Higher Learning* (50/10) 123,080
9. *Mo'Nasty* (50/10) 121,430
10. *Little Women* (50/10) 118,030

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Me and Sara See



BY FRED BRUNING

Though he lustily fed the cradle of power, Agnew long will be remembered. Oh, he was nothing much when it came to administrative matters or the formulation of policy, but Agnew did manage to articulate the country's doubts for an institution held in even lower esteem than crooked politicians: Agnew simply loved to heckle what he called the "elite media," and Americans loved him for doing precisely that.

Assuming duties as chief cardo adversary these days is Newt—what's in a name? Gingrich, an agent provocateur from the great state of Georgia and, suddenly, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Despite his oft-proclaimed and oft-democratic principles, Gingrich appears to lose neutrality rapidly when it comes to the matter of an unlettered press. What the Speaker ap-

Yodanis Ginchich noted that the 40th class he was inducted into, and, funny thing, many of Chung's brother and sister reporters used, well, maybe Cassie stepped over the line. Got last cameras were rolling, spotlight.

In the meantime, the media should buy back self-respect. Go away on the O.J. story and hand on the important stuff. Leave those useless "service" features about how to craft your snafu and find Mr. Right at the express lan. Stop taking up so much space with technicolor weather maps and forecasts on snowflakes in the Galapagos. Give us more about government incompetence and corporate treachery. People want good news, let them go to church. Bad news is the hallmark of democracy.

SHAKY START

Quebec's hearings on sovereignty generate little public enthusiasm

BY ANDREW PHILLIPS

Premier Jacques Parizeau had solemnly pledged that "the life and future of an entire people are at stake." But when Parizeau himself turned up one bone-chilling night last week for one of the opening sessions of the Quebec government's ruling commission on the future of the province, it looked like anything but a matter whose outcome in democracy is looked in fact, many like a small-scale riot. A hoarded owners of video-gambling machines, angered at a government plan to take over their industry, crashed the meeting in September just off the eastern tip of Montreal island. And even after police had evicted the protesters, the signs of enthusiasm for Quebec sovereignty were muted at best. Out by one, representatives of women's, artists' and environmental groups had the 25 coin machines that of Quebec ever also become independent, it should be much more for

women, artists and the environment. But almost without exception, they stopped short of actually endorsing sovereignty, leaving some militant separatists frustrated. "It isn't all we're going to get out of this process," complained Bruno Desjardins, a leader of the local Parti Quebecois youth group. "Here we're in big trouble."

So much, then, for the jump-start to the sovereignty movement that Parizeau's government hoped the commission would provide. Going into the week, the conventional wisdom was that the PQ was counting heavily on the provincewide public hearings to build support for independence in the run-up to the federal referendum campaign later this year. Certainly it is an enormous, complicated and risky operation. (A commission holding a total of 364 sessions in 225 communities over a period of two weeks [page 14]. The pace is, significantly set by the government at \$2 million, will in fact top \$5 million, as Parizeau was forced to acknowledge last week.)

The government's problem, looking by last week's shaky start to the hearings, is twofold. First, the commission did not turn out to be the platform for spreading an undiluted pro-sovereignty message that many observers had predicted they would be. Even though federal self-proclaimed Liberals, Quebec's chief ideological foes, are boycotting the process, the hearings haven't many tough questions and few clear answers about independence. And second, Parizeau's ministers assigned to take attention away from the separatist by concentrating to play their best firmly in their mouths. Last week, it was the turn of Finance Minister Jean Côté, who turned to a reporter that an independent Quebec might raise to pay its share of the Canadian debt that it "denied the new country's economic development. Côté compounded his gaffe by assigning to the reporter, who was interviewing him for the French service of the *Globe and Mail*, "Are you a Quebecer?"—significantly

'The life and future of an entire people are at stake'



Parizeau in September, an ambitious operation aimed at boosting independence

questioning his loyalty to the province.

Côté's own comments undermined Parizeau's long-standing claim that Quebec will be directly responsible both in its way to independence, and in a sovereign country—and federalists could hardly believe their luck. Liberal Leader Daniel Johnson labelled Côté's statements "misleading, evasive, and a sincere's appearance: a major recipe to get out of Quebec's share of the debt," and predicted that Parizeau will soon be forced to fire his finance minister as he recently had to dump two cabinet officers because Parizeau quickly convinced Côté's minister, claiming that Quebec has a "moral obligation" to assume between 15 and 23 per cent of the \$515-billion national debt. That the whole affair deepened the impression of a

government stumbling from one crisis to another. "It's one of the worst starts for a Quebec government in decades," said one senior federalist politician. "They are terribly glib—very clever, just when they need to give an impression of competence." It's anything but the PQ's rocky performance has some federalists worried that their vote might be killed in an early complicity.

PQ strategists had little doubt as to the importance of the ruling commission. For

as their concerns about independence in an atmosphere controlled by the sovereigntists themselves. When the hearings wrap up on March 5, PQ opponents will be carefully assessing whether they have succeeded in boosting support for sovereignty from the level of 40-45 per cent, where it has been stalled for months.

Last week, at least, there was little evidence of gathering momentum for the separatist cause. In September, school administrators

the local sovereignty commission was while And Georges Bouchard, a self-declared independent, compared English-Canadian to Italian Canadians who "eat all the grins and leave nothing to others." But amid the grab bag of wistful thinking, nostalgic appeals and the occasional amuseur en voyage, what was equally important was what did not happen. In the September 16th first news, traditional strategists of the sovereignty movement, members of the local commission did not hear a unified chorus of support for independence. Instead, several people went so far as to raise the prospect of violence if Quebec votes to separate. "I don't want my country to descend into fire and blood," said Joanne Morris, 26. "Do you think that in Yugoslavia people thought it would end up like that?" And in Longueuil, 100 of the 250 seats in the municipal theatre being used by the local commission stayed empty on the second day of hearings there, even though the theatre is in the same complex as Quebec's largest senior citizens' with 5,000 residents. Even though young people normally provide the largest pool of supporters for sovereignty, the students preferred to socialize and watch videos past outside the hearing room, leaving mostly middle-aged and older people to provide the commission's sparse audience.

The hearings may resemble more *townhalls* starting this week, when the Montreal commission begins taping. The city has, by far, the province's highest concentration of anglophones and ethnic minorities—groups who remain overwhelmingly hostile to independence. Although Quebec, English Quebec's main lobby group, in September, the hearings, and the government managed to find only one anglophone and members of what are known in Quebec as "ethnic communities" to sit on its 33-member Montreal commission. Even so, the commission will have been many minority representatives—including leaders of the Greek, Italian and Jewish communities—setting the stage for some heated exchanges.

The government's hope is that, despite the evident lack of enthusiasm so far, the hearings will help to persuade voters that they must choose between Parizeau's sovereignty plan and the constitutional status quo—what the Premier last week wistfully described as "abandonment"—reminding the quest for greater autonomy for Quebec. He personally announced the results of a government commission last week, which said that in 1990, while 38.4 per cent of Canadians outside Quebec believe that Quebec should be treated like any other province, Parizeau's interpretation was that Quebecers must vote to separate, or give up any chance of change. That, in turn, makes it more likely that he may see the hearing last week as an opportunity to rekindle a referendum question, but two—a multiple-choice ballot asking them to select either his party's option, or the status quo. Quebecers would then find themselves forced to choose between two options that polls show they deeply reject. □



Côté says on meeting that Quebec will refuse to pay its share of the debt

Wooing the swing voters

Cautious rural Quebecers ask tough questions about independence

When the temperature plunges to more than 25 degrees below zero, as it did last week in Pleasantville, Que., it takes no great leap of imagination to come to grips with the voters that sit in front of the *Yves St. Laurent*. Dedicated to the memory of one Father Bélanger, a 19th-century missionary, it rises from a mound of snow outside the main entrance to the handsome grey-stone church that dominates the town of 17,000, located in rolling hill country, 100 km southwest of Quebec City. An inscription describes the date that befell Father Bélanger when he and his companion, Anastase Pélissier, ventured out onto the surrounding wilderness plus one wintry night in 1845. The two men perished, dying from a lethal combination of "frost and cold."

There is now, Pleasantville could well find place to be, let alone prosper. They call the region the "Bas-Francia," and it has gone beyond night of the South Shore of the St. Lawrence River. It is plagued by a constant, steady fall, bred that way by the often bleak climate. They are dairy farmers and small-scale craftsmen, woodworkers, foresters, modest entrepreneurs and, above all, producers of some of the finest maple syrup on the continent. And they are precisely the kind of voters that Premier Jacques Parizeau's trailing campaign on sovereignty are designed to seduce.

Most of the people who live in the Bas-Francia are troubled with antipathy, misophony, misapprehension with Quebec's place in Canadian federalism but still hesitant to risk all for independence. They make up roughly 20 per cent of the electorate province-wide, enough to swing the vote or they may in the upcoming referendum. In the Bas-Francia they voted for Parti Québécois in last year's provincial election and for the Bloc Québécois in the 1985 federal election. But the region's voters have lost none of their legendary prudence, as the members of one of Parizeau's ruling commissions discovered last week when public hearings opened in Pleasantville.

More than 60 new residents turned up for the first session, taking up every available seat in the Maple Tree Cultural and Tourism Centre right behind the St-Calixte church. In sharp contrast to hearings elsewhere, there were few ringing endorsements of Quebec



Even in Windsor, Que.,
—out off on some as
he started speaking

sovereignty. What transpired instead was a succession of probing questions about the impact of independence on the region. Pleasantville Mayor Jacques Morneau, claiming that he was in no position to "push one course one way or another," raised a plea for expanded municipal powers to answer what the outcome of the referendum. Claude St-Pierre, speaking on behalf of local gays, argued that Quebec—independent or not—had to become "a more open and tolerant society." And Line Gill, a Montserrat native, worried about "the apparent lack of political will" among Quebec separatists to accommodate minority cultures.

Some of the most pertinent questions of all came from Maurice Vignault, representing 580 local farmers. He told the commission that independence "could put in jeopardy the

stability and development of agriculture in this region, and could have disastrous effects on the economy in general here." Vignault's submission, described by opposition chairman Gilles Gauthier, as "very clear and very brief," discredited the Parti Québécois. Quebecers members of the commission Jacques Baril, PQ MLA for Arthabaska, attempted to argue that independence would not harm Quebec's link with the rest of Canada, currently protected by grain sales. Responding Vignault: "What would guarantee an access to those markets if Quebec becomes an orphan?" Baril had no answer.

Despite the skepticism, however, the Pleasantville hearings were well attended, even if there appeared to be an overwhelming propaganda of pro-separatists, and they were scarcely handled by the organizers. The same could not be said for the hearings that opened a day later in the mill town of Windsor, 100 km to the southwest. That session, conducted by a different commission, was a disaster from start to finish. It began on a snowy night when Lucie Kout, a 60-year-old, a millworker, English speaking farmer and retired Alcoa executive, was cut off almost as soon as he began to read a seven-page brief that contained no more part of a completed draft of Canada. And it ended abruptly several hours later when 60-year-old Orlène Desmarais, a retired textile worker, collapsed and died of a heart attack moments after he addressed the commission, arguing it was the first time in his life that any government had asked his opinion about anything.

In between, the Windsor hearing was marred by a series of problems who were an interrupted plea to Quebec independence. Jeanne Chénier, a member of the commission, spent more than an hour delivering a robust defence of sovereignty on behalf of the local staff of the provincially owned des industries nationales. By the time Chénier sat down, there were exactly 15 members of the general public left in the audience, far outnumbered by the 195 members of the commission, their staff and the media. Commission chairman John Chamberlain blamed the debacle on "opening-day jitters." If Chamberlain was looking for guidance, she needed only cast her glance outward to those hat-headed folk in the Bas-Francia.

BARRY CANE in Pleasantville

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CANADA

Governing in the slow lane

The Liberals continue to drag their heels on some painful policy choices

As members of Parliament last week resumed what is expected to be one of the most argument sessions in the country's recent history, it might have been expected that their first gathering of 2002 would be dominated by intense debate over the dramatic choices and actions that lie ahead. Among other things, Conservatives face a budget that will hike taxes, cut governmental programs and cost as much as 45 000 civil servants their jobs in reform of the unemployment insurance system that will be bad news for the 9.7 per cent of Canadians who are unemployed, a Quebec referendum campaign that is already certain to be nasty and divisive. That, an adviser to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien said recently, "is just up there" as a topic. "That, then, made it all the more interesting that this conducted the first and most lengthy debate of their first day's session on whether to amend the Canadian Patent Marketing Act—a topic that took up so much time so all of the others combined."

The wrangling over potatoes drew lengthy responses from members of the Liberals, Bloc Québécois, Reform and New Democratic Party, but overall, none was as vigorous as the Liberals supporting their existing policy. That ex-

change, on an issue that is important to farmers but far from inspiring to anyone else, set the tone for an unexciting, unfrustrated week's work, many by whom was not there rather than who was, and what legislation was absent rather than what was presented.

Among the no-shows, Bloc Leader Lucien Bouchard, still recovering from the amputation of most of his left leg in December and Reform Leader Preston Manning, who skipped the first day of the session, as well as the arriving in of new Governor General Roméo LeBlanc (page 39). Chrétien might as well have done the same, since his withdrawal tone and creative responses to most questions suggested that he would rather have been almost anywhere else. In response to one of the few pointed questions by an opposition member—a query from Reform Deborah Grey about whether the government would emphasize higher taxes or lower spending—Chrétien responded as a dispassionate reasoner that would have done Pierre Trudeau proud, with a tone accompanied by a slight shrug, he said that "when the budget is tabled, the Liberal party will, as always, find a middle ground."

In all cases, the parties appeared directionless. That was particularly true of the Bloc

without Bouchard, Canada's official Opposition party lacks both an first order and, more surprisingly, any sense of coherence and cohesiveness in its attacks on the government. Reform, meanwhile, is often actually better with out Manning, because the spotlight then falls on some Mrs—Grey, Jim Sells and Myron Thompson—who are far better at providing the Liberals. But with no Michael Rona, Reform's overall performance in the Commons remains lackluster. The same desolation, however, also plans to the governing party: the pieces of Liberal legislation that were conspicuous by their absence: included a tough new billion government legislation, which Justice Minister Allan Rock had promised to present as soon as the lowest resumed, and legislation sharply reducing the size of the pension plan for 1995.

Since the House of Commons recessed that began just before Christmas, individual MPs—particularly Liberals—have made much of the fact that they were going back to their constituencies to begin the winter of their constituents. Having done so, they now appear prepared to move in the opposite direction in several key areas. Selected tax hikes, among Liberals' knowledge, are inevitable despite the strong public outcry against them given the deflation-

But the Liberals' foot-dragging is less a way to understand an incoherence in the country's approach to gun control and more a pressure. Brewster calls

A voice for unity

Canada's first Acadian governor general takes office

Following his investiture last week as Canada's 25th governor general, Romeo LeBlanc sent the customary short note to the Queen—his boss—to say that he had been sworn in, that everything had gone according to plan and to assure her of his "loyalty and devotion." But missing from the letter posted on Rideau Hall stationery, leaving the winged lion clutching a Maple Leaf, was any formal salutation. Rather,

[illegible]

LeBlanc's iron his home province of New Brunswick who was united to the economy.

LeBlanc rectified his humble roots in the town of L'Assommoir-Carré, one of seven children of subsistence farmers and how the family would gather marsh grasses for their Sunday dinner. His description of how French and English in the Miramichi Valley got along despite their differences was an early sign that LeBlanc intends to promote national unity.

the intimacy of his second wife, Diana Fowler LeBlanc, sister of Robert Fowler, newly appointed Canadian ambassador to the United Nations. Before she married LeBlanc last Oct. 28, the Toronto-born Fowler worked in London for various British organizations dealing with child abuse, cerebral palsy and disabled toys. Fowler, LeBlanc, 34, has been studying social work at McGill University and intends to complete her bachelor's degree this year with an internship program in Montreal.

LeBlanc, who succeeded Romeo Stenhouse, is the first Acadian to hold the post, and both he and Chertoux used that leverage to make some veiled but obvious comments about the national unity debate and the threat of Quebec separatism. Acadicians have prospered and prospered their culture within Confederation both men noted. Depressed as they were by the breakup in the mid-1970s, said LeBlanc, "if there is one group of Canadians whose past could have provided them

It was not all patting and hugging, however. Leifertt Proulx Manning broke tradition and refused to give the audience a 15-minute talk. Instead, he gave a 10-minute personal message. Steve Trudeau and John Campbell. It was his prairie, Manning said, against pornography was the last time Leifertt would not pay tax on his \$81,400 annual salary. (The new Governor, Campbell, however, will not take his previous \$50,000 and salary, and will pay tax on any increase.) Manning insisted that he meant no disrespect to the office, but said Canadians do not even shoot snipers these days. The short talk by the RCMP commander attended the ceremony anyway, as did MPs from the Bloc Québécois—leaving Manning's horsetail the only one not in the lecture.

WARREN CARMICHAEL, *ed.* *Chicago*

SHUTTING DOWN A PROTEST

Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, reacted angrily after an RCMP riot squad dismantled his protest erected by Indians on Parliament Hill to protest poor living conditions on reserves and recent changes to the Income Tax Act that will add to the tax burden of native businessmen. "Where else do we see the RCMP suppress a peaceful protest?" asked Mercredi. "That is unacceptable."

WE STRAY WARNING

Nova Scotia Supreme Court Justice Robert Anderson issued a stern warning at the opening of the trial of two men charged with manslaughter and criminal negligence in connection with the deaths of 26 miners at the former Westray coal mine of Plymouth, N.S. "This is not a theatre, nor a spectator sport, nor will it become the O.J. Simpson spectacle," said Anderson. The trial of former mine managers Gerald Phillips and Roger Parry is expected to last at least six months.

TELEVISION: BERNARDO

The CBC argued in court for the right to televise the first-degree murder trial of Paul Bernardo, who is accused of the sex slayings of Ontario schoolgirls Kristen French, 15, and Leslie Mahaffy, 14. The CBC's bid won support from Bernardo's lawyer, but was strongly opposed by Tim Danson, the lawyer representing the families of the slain girls. "They find the whole process an outrageous invasion of their privacy," said Danson. Further discussion on the issue was adjourned until March 3.

AN AIDS ALERT

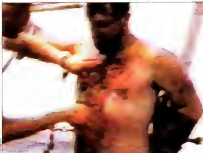
Alberta Premier Ralph Klein said he would not rule out mandatory AIDS tests for health-care workers after public health authorities revealed that a family doctor in Fort Saskatchewan, Alta., had tested HIV-positive. Health officials, who created the risk to patients was minimal, said letters to 170 people on whom the unnamed doctor had performed surgery in the last six months of 1984, recommending that they be tested for AIDS.

TRACKING CRIMINALS

The House of Commons passed a bill aimed at keeping immigrants who are convicted of serious crimes from entering or reentering Canada. The new law prohibits criminals who face deportation orders from claiming refugee status to delay their removal, and tries to minimize the risk of escape by denying them the right to file parole and unaccompanied teenagers' claims.

Canada

NOTES



An initiation ritual aboard NMCS Yukon: two more graphic videotapes surface

Exposing a military coverup?

Defence Minister David Collette was criticised last week for having allowed the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to show a television documentary about the activities of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, engaged in a legal battle against the defence minister, who had accused the Airborne of abusing and torturing prisoners of war. The documentary, which was shown on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's television network, was a critical look at the activities of the Airborne. It was a critical look at the activities of the Airborne. It was a critical look at the activities of the Airborne.

The defense ministry had other reasons to be upset. Following the release of the two earlier videotapes—one showing Airborne troops beating looting Jews, women and armless war invalids in Petukhovs' Ost, in 1995 and the other showing paratroopers making rape

Collette had been arrested by the CIA and other senior officers that the disclosure problems within the regiment had been fixed up in 1983. However, the third video was shot in Panama only six months ago.

With these facts Collette's news conference, CTV News broadcast yet another embarrassing video, this one showing soldiers of the IMCJN taking part in a ritual in 2001 in those creating the equinox for the first time. Stopped to their underwear, sailors were unseamed with chlorine baths and blood are forced to drink something they were told was urine and feces. Very apologetically Lt. Denise Lonsdale and the video showed only a small portion of a centuries-old ritual. "There's absolutely no urine or feces used," she said.

Education reforms

Ontario Education Minister Dave Cooke began to implement the learning outcomes editions of the province's Royal Commission on Learning, which issued its report in late January. Among the first outcomes, standards and report cards and a new common curriculum setting out what students are expected to know by the end of Grades 3, 6 and 9.

TRADE WAR

Like Dr. Richard Kimble, the character played by Harrison Ford in the 1993 blockbuster *The Fugitive*, Chinese officials claim they are unfairly accused. Yet they acknowledge, at least three station cable television systems in southern China recently broadcast the Hollywood film without permission. What is more, the video likely came from one of the 26 Chinese factories that are producing illegal copies of U.S. products—everything from farm fixtures to computer software and compact discs. But the state-owned monopoly ChinaFilm says it did not copy, duplicate, distribute or broadcast copies of *The Fugitive* in any company or individual. And it promptly denounced what it called "serious violations" of the movie's copyright and offered "apologues" to anyone reporting such acts of piracy. ChinaFilm spokesman Song Jie claimed that these cable operators are confused about intellectual property rights—a relatively new concept in China—and do not realize they are breaking the law. Song, he called for tough action against Chinese bootleggers who are flooding Asia with copies of Western products. Said Song: "The government is going to have to strike decisively and with great force against copyright violators."

That is exactly what U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor has been pressuring Beijing to do. Unsettled with Chinese measures against the proliferation of their U.S. copyrights, trademarks and patents—intellectual property, in the jargon of international trade—on Feb. 4, Kantor threatened to slap Beijing with the largest trade sanctions in U.S. history: 100-percent tariffs on \$1.42 billion worth of Chinese exports of cultural telephones, sporting goods and plastic products. Chinese officials promptly retorted: They imposed their own tariffs on U.S. exports of China, inden pines and sundries—mostly, many of the same products Washington has accused China of copying—and threatened to suspend talks with U.S. auto giants over possible joint ventures. That set the scene for a brewing trade war—one that could have far-reaching implications for the Chinese leadership.

Given the high stakes—China's trade surplus with the United States last year was nearly \$42 billion, and Beijing is anxious to join the



Jiang: rivals could challenge Deng's heir

Chinese piracy puts President Jiang Zemin in the hot seat

ing that Washington make a political, rather than economic, decision to support its entry into the World Trade Organization, the international body that has replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The pressure tactics backfired. The United States and other Western nations are hating China's entry into the trade body on major economic reasons, mainly its lowering of restrictive trade barriers.

The latest move occurred in December, after the last round of trade talks collapsed. A Chinese newspaper blamed the breakdown on secret U.S. trade official Lee Sander, calling him "sneaky, beer-drinking and meddling." The tactic backfired: offended by the personal attack, many American industrial leaders rallied around China's call

new World Trade Organization—experts predicted a quick end to the dispute. Instead, less than 24 hours after Kantor's tariff announcement, Haidan, Wu's Chief trade minister, extended an invitation to resume negotiations in Beijing this week. But the flap over piracy is just the latest in a series of Sino-American irritants that some observers blame squarely on President Jiang Zemin. On the "down" side, few to China's aging "papa" leader. 70-year-old Deng Xiaoping. Analysts say that Jiang's foreign policy stumbles could leave him open to rivals challenges after Deng. In his own words, "I am to meet Mao," indeed, for not U.S. ambassador to China James Lilley said that he had heard rumors among officials in Beijing that even Deng is dissatisfied with Jiang's handling of the crucial American relationship.

Jiang's main credibility crisis is in his apparent assumption that Washington will be willing to overlook continuous trade practices and human rights violations for the sake of "strategic engagement" with China, a superpower with one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. Last May President Bill Clinton lowered tariffs on Chinese products and granted the country "most favored nation" MFN trade privileges, reversing a five-year policy that tied trade concessions to progress on human rights. But China has not returned for favor the Beijing government continues to crack down on political dissidents, reportedly telling Westerners to mind their own business. Critics also point to China's mistreated policy of state

for tough, arbitrary measures against piracy. "The Chinese after the MFN decision oversteered their leverage," said Michael Glouberman, a presidential assistant on China in the Carter administration. "There has been a bubble in China growing out of their very rapid economic growth, plus an element of nationalism and a belief that their market is so attractive that they can truly influence the domestic policies of other countries."

A foreign observer in Beijing, who is close to the intellectual property rights negotiations, agrees. "The Chinese probably thought that when the U.S. de-linked human rights and trade, there was no need to make concessions on the human rights front any longer," he said. "That was a mistake."

But some analysts argue that Jiang cannot be held personally responsible for all the Sino-American irritants. They point out that some of China's public factories are operated by officials with connections to the powerful military or to relatives of the country's political elite, who are keen to protect their vested interests. "There is very little centralized trade policymaking in China," said one foreign observer in Beijing. "Each department must respond to its own interests and has its own agenda. Jiang may lack the political will to enforce a solution on these various Chinese kabals."

Some Western diplomats who see setbacks at the Chinese political scene may think that it is domestic, rather than foreign, issues that will deride Jiang's future. "Issues such as inflation, corruption, crime and unemployment have more of a bearing on his position than foreign policy," said one diplomat. "Jiang's handling or mis-handling of these domestic issues is what will determine his hold over the party leadership."

If Jiang's personal rise to the top is any indication, he will likely survive any challenge to his leadership. Known as "the weather vane" for his ability to read China's swirling political winds currently, he is the consummate opportunist.

Born in 1926, Jiang's proven in 1955, Jiang studied electrical engineering at Shanghai University of Communications and earned his Communist party three years before the 1966 revolution. In 1966, he was sent for training at the Stalin Automobile Factory in Moscow, where former premier Liu Peng was also studying. After his return to China, Jiang advanced steadily in the machine and electronics industries until Mao's (Jiang's Cultural Revolution leadership) addressed his career. Reassigned, he returned to his roots as the industrial leader. In 1982, Jiang was elected to the party's Central Committee, going on to become Shanghai's mayor in 1987, when Deng turned to the industrial

to help develop the budding city into a major industrial center.

During his three years as mayor, Jiang's unwavering ardor and pragmatism won him praise from his superiors in Beijing, but not from his constituents in Shanghai, who complained of his mediocre administrative skills. Jiang went on to become Shanghai party chief in 1988, and took a hard line against intellectuals during the city's shamless democracy movement.

As the Spring Deng continued to shed his most powerful posts, Jiang emerged as an obvious, sophisticated contender—he speaks English, Russian and Japanese and reads Japanese and French—who could carry on the paramount leader's economic reforms and lift

the party's image abroad. Jiang succeeded Zhao Ziyang as the party's general secretary in June, 1989, just three weeks after soldiers and tanks crushed pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square. It was Jiang who launched a successful propaganda campaign to convince many Chinese that no massacre had occurred at Tiananmen. In November of that year, he succeeded Deng as chairman of the all-powerful Politburo. China's aggression, Jiang added his third major job, the presidency, in March, 1992.

Clearly the most powerful man in China, Jiang nevertheless has detractors in the Politburo. Some foreign diplomats in Beijing think that by bringing many of his Shanghai cronies into the central government, Jiang is alienating other provinces in the vast, fertile Shanghai is being given too much, say, in national affairs, at the expense of other regions. "Jiang must also lead a careful juggle between hard liners, who advocate a tough stand against foreign 'meddling' in Chinese affairs, and reformers, who want to accelerate China's transformation to a free-market economy."

While Jiang, at least publicly, will carry Deng's support, the fate of two of his predecessors as party general secretary, Zhao Ziyang and Hu Yaobang, provides a cautionary tale. Both men had been lauded as Deng's heirs apparent before falling from power amid mounting charges and being to censure Western capitalist influences and American enterprise at a major constitutional forum who has closely observed the merits and tares of Chinese policies for more than 18 years. "We can really know what's going to happen. Even the principals involved in the leadership succession don't know what's going to happen after Deng dies."

ANDREW HILLMAN with ALISON NANNIBELLI in Beijing



Kantor displays bootlegged and original computer software, made at a jeep factory in Beijing (below): joint ventures



A balancing act

Republicans risk a voter backlash over budget cuts

It was budget week in Washington, and debate on Capitol Hill was mainly in dollar language, almost always in terms of "affordability" and often injury. On Feb. 6, Democratic President Bill Clinton provoked the Republican-controlled Congress, which has the power to cut the debt, by budgeting for a hefty deficit in his budget plan for the federal financial year that opens in October. "An abdication of leadership," railed Ohio Republican John Kasich, chairman of the House budget committee, protesting an aggressive assault on Clinton's new spending plan. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, leader of the first Republican electoral conquest of Congress in 41 years last November, renewed his commitment to erase the annual deficit within seven years and reduce taxes at the same time. And in the midst of making plans to cut social welfare programs, the Republicans twice showed that they can add simultaneously raise big money and reduce taxes—at least for the poor and the middle-class. They did it by tax-deferible paring.

First, under new rules from Arizona Senator Jesse Helms and his husband, defeated Senate candidate Michael Hollington, hosted a small Washington dinner party—at \$70,000 per couple at most. That raised nearly \$500,000 for National Republican Television (NRT), a pro-Republican cable network that features two regular programs starring Gingrich, the director of a house of two. Two nights later, at the Washington Convention Center, Gingrich staged again at the 1995 Republican National Gala. Some 4,100 open-handed supporters largely oversubscribed the \$140,000-plus celebration, with donations that raised the night's total to about \$1.5 million—no activity record fundraiser proclaimed party president Bill Harboer. "It has been said that money is the mother's milk of politics," said George Mowbraker, the head of a New York City cosmetics firm who chaired the gala. "Thanks to the help of the party, the Republicans have achieved the mother of all revolutions."

But on Capitol Hill the morning after, the Republicans will face a trillion-dollar-plus tax of their electoral revolution's promise. To make both government and taxes, the can presidential majority must now make sure

REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

BY CARL MULLINS

lotsa budget pain—without alienating voters who will judge them again in 22 months. To meet the objective of a balanced budget by the year 2002, as provided in a Republican proposed constitutional amendment while also cutting promised tax cuts, Congress would have to pass spending over seven years by a



The Hoffingtons: tax-deferable dinner parties

sure appropriating Clinton's entire new annual budget of \$1.6 trillion in U.S. funds.

With almost half of the budget committed to personal and corporate welfare, the Republicans must not approach their goal without targeting cuts on a range of big money social programs: from welfare, food stamps and schooling, to medical aid for old, poor and disabled citizens. Clinton's refusal to launch those programs in his budget led Republicans to fear that "The President has lost the moral authority to lead," said Iowa Senator Charles Grassley.

Clinton also might lose from a wider pol-

itic for a budget deficit that provoked a capital affront on Capitol Hill during the gay partner debate. Canada and Mexico protested Clinton's proposal to tax people entering the United States by land at a rate of \$1.50 (\$2.50 Cdn) for a person and \$3.00 (\$5.00 Cdn) per car. The main purpose would be to help fund a budget project to stop illegal migration along the Mexican frontier—a hot issue in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

At a post-budget news conference, Attorney General Janet Reno declared that the "border user" program will also pay for "improvements that will ease traffic congestion and expedite the issuance of border crossing cards for non-residents employed in U.S. border towns. Clinton's new border worker immigration officials seemed uncertain over details, one stating that a handful of people would be subject only to the vehicle fee, another that each passenger must pay the pedestrian rate. Officials noted that the fees will speed cross-border traffic and rejected suggestions that they violate the spirit of the 1994 NAFTA treaty.

But Canadian Ambassador Roy Mood-Charles designed in a key targeting congressional representatives and governors of border states to oppose it. Clinton said that "this law would be inconsistent with our joint efforts to encourage greater contacts and commerce between our countries and to simplify and streamline customs procedures under NAFTA."

On Capitol Hill, the economic focus is narrower and the money issues much bigger. The Republicans are in a bind. They are trapped ideologically between the potential virtues of budget cuts on one side and on the other, those like last week's well-heeled partyers who expect the resolution to proceed as promised. Since the new Congress opened on Jan. 4, Clinton repeatedly, but fruitlessly, challenged the Republicans to show exactly how they would comply with their balanced budget amendment, which passed the House on Jan. 25 and then stalled in the Senate.

Now, Clinton's stoutest budget proponent, the challenge is post- or show-up stress. To emphasize that in the house budget committee, White House budget director Alice Rivlin made clear that, with eyes on the 2000 elections, the parties are engaged in a high-stakes political gamble. "We have shown our cards," she said. "We're waiting for yours." The way Gingrich and company play that game will determine not only the durability of the Republican revolution, but the future fortunes of the U.S. government and perhaps—by the rich and powerful's example—the rule of governments elsewhere. □

LETTER FROM

South Africa

Coming home

They come home weary, but eager and cheering in the back of a truck that cranked only the weight of their muddy possessions. Railing at the first road into a field, a host of their bodies swarmed the end of 20 years of forced exile for southern face of Doodson, a once-prosperous farming community in South Africa's eastern Transvaal. Carefully aligned, the stacks of rolled sheet metal, log poles, bedsteads and battered dresser drew

the African National Congress-led administration of President Nelson Mandela has begun an ambitious land reform program under which more than one million dispossessed blacks could eventually reclaim their property. Like Sebella and her fellow Bapedi exiles, some of them have already returned home, not waiting for an official government blessing before starting to rebuild their shattered lives.

The returnees are staring from scratch.

Black exiles reclaim the land of their ancestors



ers' mixed piles of red dirt in a field that had once been home to 70-year-old Magdalen Sebella and her parents, who bought a share of the land in 1905. Today, home is little more than 400 hectares of scrubland overgrown with a few trees and parched grass that crackles underfoot. But to returning members of the Bapedi tribe, the field, dotted with a few lumpy shacks, is nothing less than the promised land. "To this place now we are coming back, we are so pleased," said Sebella, who remembers playing soccer on a clay court here as a young girl. "We thank God for it. God must bring it."

Sebella is just one of an estimated 35 million black farm tenants and landowners who were driven from their ancestral homes and dumped in often barren reserves designated as "tribal homelands" by successive white governments between 1948 and 1980. Now,

there is not a trace of the Doodson that existed two decades ago. No sign of the peach trees that produced thick crops in December, no sign of the two schools or the Lutheran mission. Protestant churches that once Doodson's centerpiece and spiritual hub. And the passage of 20 years has not dimmed the memories of apartheid's cruelty. Sitting on the ground under a plastic tarpaulin for shade, 96-year-old Ruth Mokhele recalls the early morning of June 28, 1948, when Doodson was only founded. "It was a surprise," she said. "Trucks came from every direction, there's a helicopter. The police went everywhere to break the windows, then big machines came and started destroying the houses."

Then-Prime Minister John Vorster's apartheid government had declared Bapedi a "black spot" in a country where white

farmers and land owners into trekked and drove three 120 km north to Maseru-Pan-African "homeland." What was the Doodson—houses, churches, peach trees and all—was bulldozed flat and turned into a police firing range and training camp. When Mokhele recalled the next 20 years of exile in what seemed a bleak, foreign land. "We were suffering," she said. "That place was not our home. We were using the bucket toilet, that's what I hate. There are small problems, we can't plant anything. The houses are packed together, all it was not nice."

Perhaps hardest to bear was the violent interruption of generations' life and death. For she lost her father and brother. In 1964, Sebella, 64, picked her way through Doodson's overgrown graveyard, watching for souls as she searched for her ancestors' burial plots. "Before we left this place, we used to clear the graveyard every year," she said, looking for we through misty high dry grass. "Every Christmas we came, and Good Fridays. Everything here was holy." Mokhele bent over a newly mound and began to sing softly. "This is my child, this one, this is my child's grave," she said, putting clumps of grass. "We are very much thankful. Now that we are here, all of us will come and clean all these graves."

As Zabetse Mokhele hunched straight, the rusty 20-year-old he had brought from his home in exile in Lesotho, he said he did not know what the future held but that a police truck's wheels do not build government. Building materials arrive. Plans for family rebuilding Doodson are still on the drawing board in Pretoria's department of land affairs. The government would have promised the villagers to sell well-developed land could begin, but did not release their demands in return.

At the peak of apartheid in 1974, some white farmers in the area were planned to see Doodson demolished. "Will they accept the community back?" "I won't say all the white people are glad, but I think quite a lot are glad they're back," said Ronald Lemoenkamp, whose Dutch-descended family opened a general store across the road from Doodson in 1894. "I think they are going to live peacefully with it in their minds that this that's going on at that will be for the good of everybody, and especially for South Africa."

The farmers who have returned say that for now, just being home is enough. Resting outside the fully furnished shack she shares with her husband, Sebella's mother, Ellen Mokhele echoed the reminder of the past. "The things that make me happy is we are back from that place where they've thrown us away, that we are back here in our grandfather's place," she said. "I am as happy as anything. As happy as I can be on my own in a place."

PHILIP WINKELMAN in Doodson

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EQUALITY OF THE SEXES?

- New smokers are evenly split between boys and girls
- Tobacco death rates among women are catching up with those of men
- Lung cancer now kills more women than breast cancer. And the number of female lung cancer deaths is rising

VIRTUALLY ALL NEW SMOKERS ARE ADOLESCENTS.

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World NOTES

SURPRISE CONFESSION

A key defendant in the World Trade Center bombing trial in New York City surprised defence attorneys by pleading guilty to all charges against him, Sledgehammer Sledge, 34, also implicated his 11 co-defendants, including Muslim religious leader Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, in a bid to carry out a war of urban terrorism. The 1993 World Trade Center bombing killed six people and injured more than 1,000.

QUAYLE DUCKS ELECTION

Saying he did not want to disrupt his family life, former U.S. vice-president Dan Quayle bowed the latest high-profile figure to drop out of the race for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination. Analysts said the real reason for the decision was that Quayle, 40, had been unable to attract the kind of people his team would need to raise the estimated \$40 million it would cost to campaign.

WALESA OUSTS RIVAL

Polish President Lech Walesa forced the resignation of Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak by threatening to dissolve parliament. Walesa battled with Pawlak for most of the president's 15-month tenure, accusing him of undermining the economic reforms that gave Poland the fastest-growing economy in Europe last year. Pawlak's leftist government, which replaced Walesa's moderate Solidarity-led coalition, won on popular discontent with the high costs of reform.

CLINTON STRIKES OUT

President Bill Clinton appeared to make no progress in his efforts to resolve the six-month-old baseball strike. Although Clinton vowed to ask Congress to order binding arbitration, legislators seemed unwilling to intervene in the labor dispute. With his resolution in sight, the Toronto Blue Jays announced that they were preparing to play all of their home games involving replacement players in Duquoin, Ill. The Montreal Expos plan to play as usual in Olympic Stadium.

COLOMBIAN QUAKE

At least 40 people died when a 6.1-magnitude earthquake struck western Colombia. The worst damage occurred in Pácora, an industrial city of 300,000 people in the heart of the coffee-growing region. Police and army chiefs declared a state of emergency and flew in food, medical supplies and reinforcements by helicopter and military transport. Officials said the death toll would probably grow as search crews dug through the rubble.



UNMASKED: A Mexican official holds up pictures of Subcomandante Marcos, the charismatic guerrilla leader who turned his trademark ski mask into a dazzling symbol of rebellion in the southern state of Chiapas. President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León publicly identified him as Rafael Sebastián Guillén Flores, the socialist son of wealthy middle-class parents, and ordered police and army troops to capture him and fellow Zapatista leaders.

Gruesome trial evidence

Blood and gore took centre stage at the O.J. Simpson trial in Los Angeles last week. The first police officer to arrive at the murder scene, Robert Blake, testified about finding the blood-soaked bodies of Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman, and seeing bloodstains leading the way. Prosecutors showed the jury graphic photographs of the victims, many of them as graphic as those shown on TV and still photographs, not to show them, and prosecutor Marcia Clark warned the witness' relatives "You don't want to look."

The defence team contends that the most incriminating evidence against Simpson, genetic tests that show traces of his blood at the murder scene and his ex-wife's blood in his hair, cannot be trusted because it was contaminated or poorly stored by incompetent cops and badly trained technicians that Blake said that when he and his partner arrived at the scene at 12:15 a.m. on June 17, they did not step on the blood, taking care to skirt around the bodies by walking on the grass or along through bushes on either side of the

walkway. He also testified that they did not see any other officers or detectives stop at the blood as it dripped the evidence. The prosecution advised, however, that the police academy did not adequately teach him how to preserve a crime scene. "They kind of gloss over it," said Blake. "They don't really train you."

Campus strife

Some students demanding the resignation of Rutgers University president Francis L. Lawrence forced the suspension of a basketball game and held noisy demonstrations on the New Brunswick, N.J., campus. The students were outraged by recently charged rumours that Lawrence made a faculty meeting, in which he asserted that disadvantaged students lacked "generic literary background" to score well on college admission tests. Lawrence offered repeated apologies for the remarks, which he made during a discussion about department pressure on incoming firsts to develop more broadly on standardized tests. But he refused to step down.

REALITY BITES

Special-interest groups are curbing their demands and supporting Martin

It is a relentless crusade to expose inequalities in Canada's tax system. Liberal MP George Baker has turned the art of political lobbying into an emblematic act of rebellion. Last October, the Newfoundland backbencher aggroed Revenue Canada statistics that revealed that 34 Canadian railroads collected unemployment insurance. Next, he handshook records that showed that 37 corporations with profits of more than \$25 million paid no income tax at all. Baker's latest target: Finance Minister Paul Martin's budget process. Last week Baker publicly accused the finance department of secretly meeting with big business and lobbying officials to lay out federal budget agendas, a move that Martin's aides took issue. Among the reasons Baker says the group rejected was a nine-per-cent wealth tax at private assets worth \$2.5 million that would net Ottawa \$25 billion a year. Asked Baker in a Feb. 1 letter to Martin "Is that what the finance department expected from this group of people?"

Although Martin's office distances most of Baker's accusations as far-fetched, the rowback MP has touched a raw nerve. Just what the finance minister is consulting—and what they are discussing—in more than idle curiosity in the lead-up to what analysts predict will be the toughest federal budget in postwar history. Based on an estimated \$6 billion to \$8 billion drop in federal spending due to the 1992-1996 fiscal year, special-interest groups across Canada may soon be jostling for justice in an empty pit. The cities of Ottawa and Hull are awaiting a cut in civil service ranks as deep as 30,000, the resident of losing the entire city of Moose Jaw, Sask. And in Toronto this week, provincial finance ministers meeting with Martin will face the plans prospect to transfer payments and an unknown year of negotiations to keep the next year's with the lowest conditions. As a result of these constraints, the state of political lobbying has shifted at every level. "The nature of the debate had to change," said a senior Martin adviser. "Most groups realize they can't just march in and say, 'This is what we want.'"

In fact, some of the most vocal lobby organizations of the past are actually buttressing their lines during this budget session. During private



Baker: students collect sheets to send to Ottawa to protest spending cuts (right): pushing for a balanced budget by the end of the decade

consultations before the 1994 budget last February, Martin held revolving-door meetings with 71 representatives from 41 different groups. In contrast, there were fewer than a dozen private sessions with Martin, spread over four occasions between Oct. 7 and Feb. 8. This is not, however, because interest groups have given up their cause or complaints. The Liberal Council of Canada for example had a vocal position in 1994 against the goods and services tax. This year, the group decided to intensify its fight for a moratorium on plans for a reduction of the GST rate—at least until next spring. "The reality is that foreign financial markets are far more important to Martin than Ottawa's who

live here," said Peter Woolford, the council's vice-president of policy. "Candidates don't have a lot of choice any more. We're open to wealth and hence so realistic. It's like having a mortgage. We're happy. And the folks who own 40 per cent of our debt are saying, 'Sorry folks you can't go on using the lenient credit card.'"

Despite the air of apparent inevitability, the Liberal government is heading of unprecedented openness in its budget preparation process. The finance department laid out the scope of Canada's worst fiscal year last October in "Creating a Healthy Fiscal Future: The Economic and Fiscal Update," the so-called Liberal gray book. A subsequent two-month sweep of the country by the government's finance committee gathered the probably diverse opinions on how to address that situation from 650 groups and individuals. Much of the committee's handily written report, released last December with two dissenting reports from the Blue-Grubsters and the Reform party, is already *en route*. But the dissent predictions stirred Canadians to record numbers to add their own two cents to the discussion. Worldly reports treasure the hundreds of calls to Martin's office, a brevity 15-page synopsis of the flood of letters and letters offers in many suggestions in brief. Just as Martin Myers, chief economist for the Canadian Manufacturers and Association, "Ironically, Canadians may be prepared for even deeper cuts than the government can make."

Part of that acceptance may stem from the scene in January when a panel of interest rates three government projections vary and spoked the main country, that the changing Canada dollar and rising interest rates were useful to Martin's deficit-cutting agenda. It convinced a policy Liberal caucus, particularly the Atlantic and rural Ontario wings, that the key deficit target of \$85 billion by 2006-2007—or three per cent of gross domestic product—required broad cuts. It also smoothed the way for Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy to postpone the overhaul of social programs until Canada's local house was in order—but left intact a government plan to pour \$2.4 billion from \$38.7 billion of social program expenditures over the next two years.

In government and business circles, the global economy—and its downsides—have, in effect, become a cause. And Martin has well-documented reasons away from the national stage to such broader issues with decreasing effectiveness. Lynne Tuck, executive director of the National Anti-Poverty Organization, was nominated to an all-day meeting with the finance minister in Ottawa last December. She went prepared to argue against proposals to redesign federal transfers that would convert much of the

money for postsecondary education into student loans and eliminate the rest with transfers for welfare and health care. A single block had \$20 million in federal transfers to Ontario, the province end of the social safety net of last resort.

Instead, Tuck said she found herself engaged with Martin in an entirely different debate. "He talked about the fact that he didn't have a hell of a lot of room to maneuver," he talked about markets, he talked about what happens if the international monetary fund comes in," Tuck said. "Tuck said, 'I'm not going to appear on domestic premises.' Tuck said, 'The asked, 'What would you do if you were me?' I said, 'What would you do if you were me?' And we agreed that we would do exactly the same thing. We agreed to disagree."

At the other end of the lobby spectrum, the business community found itself in a somewhat considerable predicament. Canadian Manufacturers' Association (CMA) officials who have met twice with Martin—last week demands for radical changes, including a \$400-million cut in federal funding to the CMC and a lesser public service with lower benefits and reduced salaries. To pump up the private business sector, the Toronto-based group wants strengthened tax credits and the total elimination of taxes on corporate income in the manufacturing goods sector. The CMA itself shows negotiations with a proposed \$10-billion cut in federal transfers and subsidies to industry, that they left Ottawa realizing they were, however reluctant, partners in the exercise. "The government cannot afford to do something that will get the business community jumping up and down," said Myers. "But the business community must stand up to this in a terrible battle without pulling the rug out from under Paul Martin's feet—and our own."

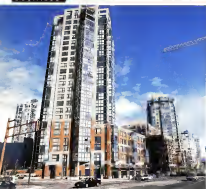
Still, Martin is under tremendous pressure from business lobby groups to slash even more. The CMA is advocating a balanced budget '94, at the very latest, the end of the decade. Thomas d'Aquila, president of the Business Council on National Issues, said Martin's memorandum from the annual economic conference in Ottawa, Switzerland, on Jan. 30, warning that governments around thought the three-per-cent target would not provide the necessary assurance to international markets. Urging Martin to go beyond that target, d'Aquila wrote: "Surprise the markets, beat the predictions, put the securities on the defensive, watch the dollar rally, create the momentum for an easing of interest rates and gain the vital confidence that you and the government will need to go the next mile." If the Liberals hit this budget, d'Aquila told Maclean's, "the cuts that are going to have to come in the next two years will make what we're talking about now look like a kindergarten picnic."

Such tensions are commonplace in the nation's capital. But according to a senior Martin aide, the finance minister's three-per-cent goal is non-negotiable. "With business groups, he tries to make the point that there are three per cent of GDP is a legitimate target and why going to zero is a position that will never happen," said the aide. "If the line is five or six or seven years, every government, including this one, would postpone the day of reckoning on that. It's too far out."

As Martin has learned, that day of reckoning comes with it a momentum political cost. Shortly after he released the government's "gray book" last October, Martin walked his 774-member caucus through an emotional presentation of the nation's economy. Liberal MP's then went home for Christmas, returning with the message that corporate companies would not tolerate any more cuts. Last week, Martin held a four-hour session with the caucus on economic development; caucus members. Among that group was Newfoundland MP George Baker—and a reminder that when it comes to deciding who pays their way in Canada, the discussions have only begun.

By K. WAYNE PULLEN in Ottawa





Pacific Place in Vancouver: challenging the grip of a monopoly on cable service

Cable turf wars

Rogers fights for market control in Vancouver

It seems more like a turf war between rival street gangs than a corporate feud. Late last month, at least 18 vans owned by Rogers Communications Ltd. circled a 400-unit condominium tower at Pacific Place on the former Expo 86 site in downtown Vancouver. The building, owned by Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing, runs an independent fibre-optic network to deliver television signals to residents. Rogers, which has a monopoly on the local cable market, claims that the system is illegal, and it has been battling to have it disconnected. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) is scheduled to convene a hearing into the matter in Vancouver this week. But Rogers technicians had apparently been told to dismantle the system, and they advanced the building's manager that Li had agreed to let them in the building. When they were turned away, they promptly descended down escalators into a tunnel housing Rogers communications equipment outside of the tower. Once made public, the incident quickly escalated into yet another public relations fiasco for the

company. Said Jim Brand, who watched the whole episode from his 15th-floor window: "An awful lot of people are upset."

Perhaps Rogers' biggest trouble was a technical one. The most recent controversy follows closely on the heels of a consumer revolt over so-called negative option billing for cable services just eight weeks ago. Those two firestorms have heightened the focus on the increasingly touchy issue of viewer choice, and whether the cable television sector should surrender to fair value-open competition from telephone companies. Under current law, telephone companies cannot supply cable television in areas already served by firms such as Rogers. But the provincial Crown corporation, B.C. Telecom Inc., a partner in the firm that supplies cable television to Pacific Place, and Rogers Communications Inc. vice-chairman Phil Lind said B.C. Tel is breaking the law. Said Lind: "They're saying, 'We want to go on breaking the law until such time as the law will change.'"

Pacific Place is clearly a market worth fighting for. As well as office space, the \$2-billion project will eventually include more

than 6,000 condominiums and apartments. It is billed as Canada's first "smart community," and the property's developer, Concord Pacific Development Ltd., joined with B.C. Tel. to deliver cable television through a third firm, Pacific Place Communications Inc. (PPCI). Under the plan, every apartment will be wired with fibre-optic cable, allowing subscribers to not only receive cable television but to shop and bank at home. PPCI president Joe Markowski said his firm sells a cable television package with dozens of specialty services for \$29.50 a month. Rogers eventually offered to supply Pacific Place with a complete cable package—at roughly the same price—but by the time the offer was made, most of the building's residents had already subscribed to PPCI. Now, they appear reluctant to switch. Said Brand: "Let us have some choice in the matter."

But Rogers was so outraged by the invasion of its territory that it even brought a court-muster in the complex through a numbered company to keep tabs on developments there. And a Rogers representative spoke to residents in the building asking them to sign a petition demanding that the building's owners provide the alternative signal. Markowski dismissed the Rogers decision to buy a condominium as "crazy," "stupid," and "silly." His firm just wants to ensure that the project's developers obey the law, added Lind: "The telephone companies are the largest anti-competition cartel in history."

The CRTC will now have to decide whether PPCI is, in fact, breaking the law. Under the federal Broadcast Act, the owners of apartment towers can erect antennas on their property to collect television signals for distribution to their tenants. However, PPCI's antennas are not located at the building site, and the CRTC will now have to determine whether the service from them is illegal. And at a hearing in Ottawa next month, cable companies are expected to ask the CRTC for a five-to-seven-year grace period before the cable monopoly is ended. Anything less than that, they say, would badly damage the cable industry. Said Bruce Reid, a telecommunications industry consultant in Vancouver: "Rogers will be in trouble if the telephone companies jump into cable."

Lind also suggested that the industry needs protection, because, he said, the cable industry's struggle is shown as far as a "new year's lighting a 500th candle." But consumers appear to have little sympathy with that analogy. In fact, Brand said that tenants from Pacific Place planned to ask the CRTC to pressure PPCI's service. And B.C. Tel vice-president of advanced communications, Nadir Mahomed, dismissed Lind's suggestion that the cable industry is too small to face full competition. "I have a hard time buying into the infant industry argument," he said. Now, the CRTC will have to decide just how mature the cable industry is.

TON FRISWELL and DAVID THOMAS
in Vancouver

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Feathering nests for the future

Young Canadians are starting to save earlier for their retirement

In the volatile economic climate of the 1990s, even money often takes a back seat to the joys of RRSP savings or a pay raise for investing in mutual funds. It's part of the dominant party in Toronto, a conversation between Jeanette Pietrangelo, 26, a senior trends co-ordinator in the circulation department of a newspaper, and Mary Grande, 34, a secretary with a local hunting and plumbing contractor, quickly veered from the routine wedding they are both planning to the details of investing in mutual funds and other investments. Grande explained that while her friends also discuss the two advantages of opening an RRSP, she has never actually opened one. But Pietrangelo, who opened her first RRSP plus five years ago, quickly suggested a solution. She had recently found a good financial planner who was helping her to invest in one of the most suitable mutual funds for her needs, and she offered to introduce her to Grande. "It's too busy to do that for myself," explained Pietrangelo. "Right now, I need a financial planner who will keep me informed of my options at all times."

Until 20 years ago, it was usually referred to as "saving for a rainy day." It was done principally by middle-aged Canadians after they had paid off their mortgages and educated their children. Today, however, the growing concern about the future of Canada's individual social safety net has led an increasing number of young investors to begin saving earlier in life. Few people are tiring the workforce except to benefit from the Canada Pension Plan upon retirement. At the same time, widespread corporate downsizing and restructuring means that more Canadians than ever are working on contract or in part-time jobs that do not carry job security or full company pension benefits. Furthermore, many of these graduates have school on an uncertain workday are often living longer with their parents, and they are using that opportunity to accumulate personal savings. With new tax incentives in RRSP rules—such as the advantages of beginning to save for retirement earlier in life being especially reinforced by financial institutions—the media appears to be hitting home. Said Pietrangelo, "I want to be somewhat financially secure."

According to a national poll conducted by

Toronto-based Decima Research last November, only 18 per cent of Canadians between the ages of 18 and 24 plan to make RRSP contributions for the 1994 tax year. That number rises to 35 per cent for those in the 25-to-34-year-old age group. Furthermore, a preoccupation with financial security has created a strong appetite for low-risk investments among these younger investors. About two-thirds of poll respondents indicated that they would opt for the "safety" of mutual funds because they are both diversified and professionally managed. Says Brian Lee, 31, a product support specialist with

Franklin to look towards the day when the Canadian mutual fund industry will hit \$1 billion in assets," he said. "And possibly as early as a decade from now."

Still, not everyone seems to be getting the message. For his part, James Wade, 30, who earns \$34,000 a year as a letter carrier with Canada Post in Ottawa, says he has a secure job and enough money to meet his basic needs each month. But Wade, who currently has \$60,000 in a bank savings account, has his RRSPs, GICs or stock investments. According to Gordon Pope, well-known Canadian author and an expert on RRSP investing, Wade's case



Northern Telecom in Ottawa. "When I was in university, I lost my tuition money by investing in stock options. I've tried taking risks but now I'm more interested in simply saving."

Fuelled in part by the entrance of a new generation of lawyers, mutual fund assets in Canada alone have soared to \$127.3 billion last year from \$9.6 billion in 1983. About one-third of those mutual funds, or \$40 billion, is held inside RRSPs. Colin Deane, a senior principal with Toronto-based accounting firm Tins & Young, forecasts an outstanding average growth rate of 15 per cent per year over the next ten years for mutual funds. "It's now

is the classic example of procrastination gradually eroding retirement income." Wade could have been contributing to RRSPs for several years. He has \$6,000 in savings, after all, said Pope. "But the failure to do that has cost him valuable tax breaks and thousands of dollars in lost-forever compounding."

To remedy that common situation, Pope says that people in Wade's position should first determine how much they can contribute to an RRSP for the years coming since 1991. That in the first year that missed RRSP contribution limits were allowed to be carried forward. They should then credit themselves in a pay



Wade, Mazurkewich and Gregory in Calgary (left): little expectation of a government or corporate pension

roll deduction plan at a bank or in the workplace, acting as a monthly contribution level that will cover both the current year's contribution and a portion of the contributions they have missed over the past four years. And to maximize earnings in their RRSP, Pope suggests diversifying among several mutual funds or other investment vehicles.

Certainly that is the sort of strategy that the federal government is also encouraging through current tax policy. For the past few years, Ottawa has provided an increased amount of incentives for all Canadians to save for retirement on their own. The most popular of these has been increasing contribution limits from \$5,800 in 1990 to a maximum annual limit contribution limit of \$13,500 for 1994. And in 2002, because of tough economic times and the dif-

culty in saving enough money for the down payment on a house, one RRSP rule was loosened especially to help young investors get started. This new option allows individuals to borrow up to \$20,000 from their RRSPs to invest in their first home—in option that an estimated 20,000 Canadians have exercised since it was introduced three years ago.

Some financial planners, however, warn that using borrowed investment capital to buy a house results in a critical loss of the long-term compounding of money. As a result, an investor's RRSP savings—boosted by the attractive rate of return that both fixed income and stock markets investments provide—may result in better returns at return than the housing market in the foreseeable future. That cost is reflected among financial planners would like to see RRSPs used solely for retirement.

ment money, as they were initially intended to be. Says Peter Wade, 38, vice president of Toronto-based Jet Jet Capital Management Corp. "I don't like the latest gimmicks—using RRSP money to buy a house. I don't think there are substantial advantages to people. The long-term consequences of losing that compounding is great. Too many people focus on the short term."

Many young investors are also making more of their own investment decisions and carefully designing their own custom portfolios. For one, Cindy Laker, 35, who does freelance work in the information industry in North Vancouver, has invested in mutual funds over the past few years. Currently, she holds about \$10,000 in GICs and other fixed income securities. Because she and her partner, Ron Crivie, 31, are both self-employed, their combined income fluctuates between \$40,000 and \$90,000 annually. Consequently, their RRSP investment choices are always conservative. "I need to be a stockbroker, and I manage over 10,000 shares," says Laker. "The RRSP savings are just from the last two years and we contributed our own money."

But the drive to secure a solid financial future has also led some of those with a longer investment horizon to take a more aggressive strategy. Says Mark Mazurkewich, 34, a petroleum engineer and his high-school teacher wife, Ken Gregory, 28, both of Calgary, diligently research their investments before choosing one. They strongly believe that there is no other safe and, with a combined income of \$200,000, they can achieve greater returns in their plans by holding a large percentage of their savings in stocks and stock-based mutual funds rather than highly conservative savings accounts, GICs or bonds. "I think our gains can be greater in stocks and bonds, because we've got 30 years before retirement," said Mazurkewich. "Everybody talks about security with GICs, but how secure are you if you retire and you don't have enough funds?"

Still, there are many young Canadians who have never—and may never—make any kind of RRSP contribution. For one, Toronto magazine editor John McIntyre, 28, says that even though he has stopped making an RRSP contribution and has returned to his parents' home, he is not convinced that investing in RRSPs is the right way to go. "I keep getting bombarded with information, and part of me knows that I would be getting more money this way," said McIntyre. "That is not convinced that investing my lifestyle now will really be worth it in the long run. So many things could change in 20 years." But at today's tough economy, he is increasingly becoming the exception, not the rule. And thousands of young Canadians like Pietrangelo and Grande have begun making money for the future, and the future they will be happily awaiting pension checks in stead of frantically searching for the money to pay for them.

JULIE GAGAN with ANTHONY HOGG in TORONTO and JEFF HEDGECOCK in CALGARY AND LUCIE FERNAN in OTTAWA

Speaking personally

Canadian money managers discuss their own savings

With the deadline for contributions to 1994 registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs) looming at month's end, Maclean's reporter John Coates asked some professional money managers how they are saving and investing their own money. *His review:*

RICHARD JENNINGS, 50
Global equity manager
Triwest Investment Management Inc.
\$9.2 billion under management

The early bird gets the worm. With that in mind, Richard Jennings made his RRSP contributions for 1994 last year. "I do it monthly and pay for the coming year at the beginning of the year." Only 36, he has more years for interest compounding to work its magic. And for Jennings, the equities market is the best place for getting superior returns. Says Jennings: "I don't hold GICs in my RRSP. In saving for the long term, better returns are available from equities."

NORMAN LAMARCHE, 52
Portfolio manager, Allstream Resource Fund
Allstream Investment Services Inc.
\$5 billion under management

For anyone who kept a large portion of their RRSP portfolio holdings in the Allstream Resource Fund last year, 1994 was not a good year. But Norman Laramche, who did just that, believes that the economic climate for resource stocks is changing. Says Laramche: "A lot of investors have been distressed. They have been chasing their dreams in emerging markets and forgetting what has been going on in their own backyards." The best investment choice in 1995? Laramche believes: "Assuming you're well diversified and your financial picture is good, keep it in Canada. Commodities, and resource and chemical stocks will do well. And even though it's hard to do, I think it's time to start buying some weakness."

NEIL LOWAT, 54
Vice-chairman
Macdonald Financial Corp.
\$104 billion under management

This year, says Neil Lowat, it's going to be a "can loss" whether the U.S. or Canadian economy performs best. But overall, there is little that can go wrong with investments in stocks

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or bonds. Says Lowat: "We're looking for a 10- to 15-percent return for both in 1995." The only possible clouds on the economic horizon? The federal government debt. "Canada is not going to grow out of it," cautions Lowat. "We are going to have to cut. But I think that message is getting through. It got through in Alberta and New Brunswick. They are on the leading edge of deficit cutting." If you can make only one major investment this year, however, it should still be in the Canadian stock market. And as for all those investments you do make 40 years of age or younger, your best bet should be in stocks. "In 40 years, you should have no money in bonds. In 1995, assets will bring you the best returns."

SHIRLEY BARALUK, 48
Assistant manager, personal/financial services
Investment Group Inc.
\$27.1 billion under management

As long as it appears that short-term U.S. interest rates are moving higher, there will be volatility in Canadian stock markets. "We need to see evidence of stability in the bond markets before we see better stock markets," says Shirley Baraluk. An RRSP investor for 10 years, Baraluk holds a balanced 60/40 portfolio of foreign, domestic and Canadian equity mutual funds. She recommends 88% for all Canadians and stresses the importance of developing a long-term investment portfolio with a comfortable asset mix. "Find your comfort zone," she advises. "If you're conservative, you can take more equity risk, but if you're closer to retirement, fixed income mutual funds, GICs and a small equity component is what you need."

ANDREW WILLMAN, 49
Chairman of the investment committee,
Norwest Capital Management Inc.
\$500 million under management (in Canada)

Andrew Willman never follows the crowd. A true contrarian, he sees a highly dark financial investment climate in 1995. "We expect bad news. Debt levels and taxes are high, savings rates are low and we see a continued rise in short-term rates." As for stock investments, says Willman, some "unstable" risk in equity markets in 1995. "Stock markets worldwide are overvalued," he says. "We're not short-term, but we are little uptick." Having invested in 80% for the past 10 years, he feels many aggressive investors in mutual funds have developed the perception that anything less than 10 percent is not good. "The decent funds will be markets. So what's a confused investor to do? Suggests Willman: "With no inflation on the horizon, it will be a very exciting year for bonds." So in Canada, Canadian bonds, where he sees 80 percent returns, look like good investment. And his advice that many investors will be able to 1994, and the new-growth investment returns is provided in both stocks and bonds, is over. "The best investment in 1994 was to avoid losing money," says Willman. "Remember, what you invest in is not important, so what you don't invest in."

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Civility behavior

Small wonder that David Bean is not known to be a terribly odd person these days. As the leader of the \$70,000-member Public Service Alliance of Canada, Bean is waging a noble crusade to save the natural habitat of an endangered species—endangered federal bureaucrats. It seems that in his little campaigns to wreck spending and with the approval of foreign financial markets, the Liberal government is poised to send to the bulldozers, down the swing and swing Ottawa's fragile food chain. The so-called elected officials are questioning the very notion of permanent job security in the ranks of Canada's public sector. And such anxiety is more than Bean can tolerate.

After all, what sort of a country cannot sustain the inalienable right of its surplus workers to teach "recessive jobs" within 10 km of their homes? Those are the rules explicitly spelled out in a "workforce adjustment directive" negotiated by the public sector unions in 1981. And surely even Canada's hardest foreign creditor would not suggest that longtime government employees, already victimized by wage freezes, should suddenly be subjected to the same performance management and competency discipline as those Canadians employed by private corporations?

Clearly, the unemployed brothers and sisters who have suffered through the painful restructuring of Canada's hardest foreign creditor over the past five years have a great deal to learn about becoming. For at the very same time that Bean was digging in his heels over job security in Ottawa, union workers at a Coca-Cola warehouse in Winifred, worried about that very same issue, were voluntarily cutting their salaries by three dollars an hour and looking for new ways to work more co-operatively with management.

In an effort to contain such assaults on the status quo, Bean has firmly drawn a line in the sand. The Liberals propose to eliminate about 30,000 jobs across 30 federal departments in the upcoming budget. They also want a three-year suspension of the job-security provision in the existing deal. In exchange, the government is offering early retirement plans, buyout



THE BOTTOM LINE

BY DEBBIE MCMURTRY

packages and retraining programs to dislocated public servants. But, while he gradually concedes that his union might accept the reality of government downsizing, Bean wants that to occur on his terms. He insists that loyalists benefits must be extended to all who want them—not just those who are specifically targeted by a strategic plan. And for public servants who do not wish to be so inconvenienced, he wants the existing job security agreement to remain intact.

But what time trade and the economic momentum did to reshape the private sector, unsustainable levels of government spending are now doing for the public sector. All levels of government are under intense pressure to cut budgets and to reconsider how their diminished resources are best allocated. As a consequence, whether Bean and his members like it or not, the term "job security" has largely become an anachronism in the 1990s.

The stubborn trend of this reality is especially disturbing because it breaks two sacred facts. First, the rule and the structure of Big Government in Canada desperately need a major overhaul. Second, the traditional, adversarial relationship between labor and management is out-of-date in a competitive world, neither side can afford the luxury of protracted disputes and deadlocks.

In his recent article, "Rethinking Government," in *The Advocate*, Michael Auerbach (management guru Peter Dinkhof argues that all organizations—especially those as sprawling as a federal government—must constantly evolve and "rethink" themselves to remain relevant and effective. While Dinkhof correctly predicts that the introduction of performance objectives and measurement would meet "resistance by the bureaucracy," he insists that a new focus on school programs and policy results—rather than just their political output—is the only way to proactively "rethink" and improve government services. But as even more radical ideas sprang from that theory, if Bean and the Public Service Alliance of Canada fully participated in the process of review and renewal in Ottawa, they might actually find job satisfaction within a 35-km radius.

A MERGING OF THE MINDS

Canadian software company Alisa Research of Toronto has concluded a \$700-million deal to merge with Silicon Graphics, a California-based computer company. Alisa will be the core of a new Toronto-based software subsidiary that will serve a booming market for the sophisticated technology used by film-makers, animators and video-game producers. The merger also includes Wavefront Technologies, another U.S. company that specializes in computer animation.

AN ISLE OF LIFE AND TRUST

North American Life Assurance Co. of Toronto has put the \$3-billion build operation it began building three years ago on the block. The company plans to focus on its core life insurance business, too. Trustco, which was formed from the remains of First City Trust, acquired in 1992, reported a sharply increased loss loss provision of \$64 million for the last three months of 1994.

BRIDGING A GULF

Cash-strapped Gulf Canada Resources Ltd. of Calgary is pulling out of its joint-venture project in Russia. The company said that its 25-per-cent equity stake in the Kamfretco company will be sold because it is no longer part of the corporate strategy focus. Gulf, which has already dropped out of the \$2-billion Hecar offshore oil project, has spent between \$25 million and \$30 million on the joint venture with no return to date.

FRENCH PRINTS

Quebecor Printing Inc. has paid almost \$100 million to purchase one of the largest printing operations in France. The Montreal-based printing and media company bought Groupe Ardo from the group's wholly owned company of the same name, which has four plants in France, printing magazines like *L'Espresso* and *Play*. The deal will be in multi-currency payments. Dider had revenues of \$475 million last year and employs more than 1,700 people. Quebecor Printing-Groupe Ardo also became the majority shareholder in another large French printer, Groupe Peccore, in 1993.

STEELED FOR EXPANSION

Algonia Steel of St. John's, Nfld., will proceed with a \$500-million plant modernization that will make it one of the most efficient and lowest-cost steel producers in North America. The decision required the company and its 6,500 employees to agree to substantial concessions, including the dilution of employee ownership to about 26 per cent from the current 57 per cent.

Business NOTES



REVOLTING: Angry Canadian taxpayers held a rally in Toronto to express their outrage over the prospect of tax hikes in the upcoming federal budget. A study by the independent Canadian Tax Foundation, however, reveals that the disastrous tax burden is about average among industrialized nations. Within the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Canada ranks fourteenth out of 34 countries. Canada's total tax collections are about 38.5 per cent of gross domestic product.

Slocan stands alone

After six weeks and several accepted offers, Canfor Corp. of Vancouver accepted the deal of its \$200-million takeover bid for Slocan Forest Products Ltd. Slocan was unsuccessful in winning 51 per cent of Slocan's shares by the time its final offer expired last week. The company had offered to buy 10 per cent of Slocan's shares at \$29 and exchange the remainder for 361 of a Canfor share. Slocan, however—which was fighting the deal—countered with its own proposal to pay \$20 a share for about 33 per cent of the stock. It negotiated a funding agreement with Western Banker Canada to provide a loan for half the \$69-million buyback, in exchange for a 10-year contract to supply Weyerhaeuser with wood chips.

Months days of its inception, Canfor joined forces with Slocan's Expresses of France Group, Inc., an anonymous plan to build a plant in Prince George to produce media-

density fiberboard. The two companies have applied to the provincial government for the necessary environmental permits to construct and operate the plant, which will cost between \$120 million and \$130 million.

Working it out

Canada's national unemployment rate rose to 9.7 per cent in January from 9.6 per cent in December. According to Statistics Canada, the actual number of unemployed rose by 21,000 in January to 244 million. That is the first increase in the jobless rate since August. Still, some 457,000 new full-time jobs were created in 1994.

A study from the Conference Board of Canada, however, noted that significant wage increases for unionized workers are not on the horizon in 1995. The Board said union wages will rise on average of 1.4 per cent—less than the forecasted 1.2-per-cent rate of inflation and 3.4-per-cent economic growth rate.



Can people tame the great tax monster?

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Lobbying politicians is a bit like making love to a gorilla. You don't stop when you're tired; you stop when they're tired. Even though Ottawa's ruling Liberal party may have exhausted itself learning to the thousands of complaints by haggard citizens who remain in protest—by law or in person—whether a tax increase is imposed, Western Canadians haven't stopped feeling resentful and are now banding together to lead a national tax revolt. Nobody has dropped his arms into Victoria harbor yet, but the local chapter of the Pacific Gateway is going to get ready for such a caper any day now.

Although Ottawa's accounting to the nation last month was ordered to say that Martin's budget, it not really order his, or anybody else's, central. Our national debt (now at \$550 billion) and annual deficit (projected to top \$55 billion for the current fiscal year) has become a monster with a life of its own.

Canada's four unopposed developments that may make the taming of the deficit (never mind the debt) even more difficult. Since Martin's cabinet last August a year ago, interest rates have nearly doubled. And every time interest rates increase by one percentage point, it adds \$1.7 billion to the deficit. On top of that was the \$12.2 billion supplied as an emergency credit by the Bank of Canada to help shore up the Mexican peso. Finally, but not least mentioned that would be one of our responsibilities under the North American Free Trade Agreement, and it's impossible to tell how much money will have to be shovelled into the Mexican economy. One of President Ernesto Zedillo's main promises to restore the value of his country's currency is that workers would be granted higher wages. Since most of Mexico's labor force is already being paid 19 per cent below 1990 wage levels, it's doubtful if this pledge can—or should—be kept.

Then, last month, the federal court ruled that Ottawa had to pay out \$4.2 billion to rebates to more than 100 insurance companies

Never before have taxpayers taken on Ottawa before the budget. They are sending tax spenders a message: 'We've had enough!'

on previous losses they paid in the 1970s. And, while the accounting economy will produce more tax revenues this year, the unemployment rate kept back up last month to 9.7 per cent, from 9.4 per cent the previous month. If the trend to higher unemployment rates continues, there may be a lot more unemployed citizens payable to be made.

In order to meet his modest target of a \$25 billion deficit by 1997 (which may or may not be the desired three per cent of our future gross domestic product, but at any rate will still mean that we will be spending \$2 billion more per month than we take in), Martin has to make cuts over the next two years of between \$8 billion and \$12 billion, depending on what happens to interest rates and whether or not we slip into another recession. By 1997, the economy will have been growing for five years, the usual gap between recessions. Martin's is a daunting assignment because to relieve that much money out of federal spending could cause a real revolution, instead of merely a threatened one.

Signs of that revolt were apparent recently by a Vancouver rally sponsored by the B.C. branch of the Canadian Taxpayers

Federation, headed by a charismatic young Calgarian named Jason Kenney. He gave a rousing speech, as did his B.C. director, Tony Laroque, and they were quickly become chanted that day morning, the most of the other 18 home held across the country that month, had a hidden agenda. This was easy to judge by how the crowd, which numbered about 1,200, responded to the speakers' appeals. "We've been robbed by Ottawa for 36 years, and we're about to light back!" Kenney would shout, and everybody chanted, as they did when he continued. "Never before have Canadian taxpayers taken on a federal government before the budget, never before has Ottawa heard anything except the state of the tax spenders and the special interest groups. Now, taxpayers are sending tax spenders a message: 'We've had enough!'"

Speaker after speaker stated on a similar manner, but the biggest cheers were for any attack on parliamentarians' pensions. The fact that 45-year-old Penny Beatty, the former Clark/Martin cabinet minister (she became an MP at the tender age of 23), now collects an annual lifetime pension of \$78,000 raises a local taxpayers at any tax meeting in the country. Barbara Yule, the Vancouver Star columnist, has not so far received 15,000 letters of support following her devastating critique of the federal party's post-parliamentary pension plan.

Other issues that brought people to their feet were any mention of gun prohibition or gun control, closing up the Senate, spending any federal money on health or telecommunications, funding occupational groups—and for the moment, maintaining the CIO. That was the real agenda here, and even though the meeting had no official connection with the Reform party, its proceedings echoed Preston Manning's current line. But the crowd's enthusiasm was not just for the Reform party of a bunch of anti-out-lawbreakers.

Canadian taxpayers really do deserve a look. On average, they now spend more on taxes than for food or lodging, and nobody seems quite sure what we get for it. Taxes have been rising on average 10 per cent a year, and the debt doubles every decade. It doesn't add up, and ordinary Canadians are poised to take the law into their own hands.

Every revolution needs a Polignoteo Ruffalo—the Cuban dictator before Fidel Castro's 1958 revolution—to inspire a people's movement with a sense of outrage. The history of the current revolution in Detroit Mills, the Liberal MP from downtown Toronto who, when asked recently what the reaction of Canadians would be to higher taxes, shrugged and replied: "Oh, they'll complain for a few days. Then they'll say, 'I don't pay you.' A 'Challenged' later, as whether he really wants to disarm Canadians' temperance; that he couldn't. He shut back: 'I'm just telling it like it is. Canadians rarely complain about taxes, but they're much too passive to pull up their sleeves and take the attack.'"

See you on the barricades, Dennis.

PEOPLE

PAPA SEGER KEEPS ON ROCKIN'

He is a rock 'n' roll legend with his songs like *Midnight Rider*, *Old Time Rock & Roll* and *Late in the Evening* (that's right, it's a song), he's releasing them all at once and others on his current Greatest Hits album. It's something that Bob Seger says that he has always wanted to do. But, he adds, right now his greatest accomplishment is his family. "I got to be a little more in line than most people," says the 49-year-old rocker from Detroit. "But man, do I love it." Seger, who with his wife, Nina, has a two-year-old son, Cole, and is

awaiting the birth of a daughter in April, says that family life has changed everything—even the way he makes music. "There is a new discipline," he explains. "You really look at and do things differently." Even singing. For his next concert tour, Seger says that instead of traveling by airplane he will cross North America by bus. That way, his family can accompany him. "At night, I'll get up on stage and I'll know that my family is waiting for me afterwards," he says. "It's a lucky man. Just a musician's family man."

SPREADING SOME LIGHT

He seemed to have it all: a high-profile job as anchor on one of the critically acclaimed newsmagazines *60 Minutes*, a good family life, and strong financial chops. But he is battling against three different bouts of depression starting in 1985. Like *Miller Wallace*, does not seem so wonderful. "You don't know what it's like when you, and you don't want to tell anyone because they think about you the way you are," says Wallace, 38. But now, the veteran journalist is living a growing list of celebrities—including American actor William B. Davis—who won the 1989 Emmy Award for *Miller Wallace* and Canadian broadcaster Helen Huchison—speaking out about the deep depression he played in three lives. In Toronto recently, the New York City-based Wallace spoke honestly and candidly about his struggles. "It is a disease," he says. "You wouldn't be ashamed if you had cancer." But, he says with a smile, he does not want to be known as the "depression boy." He certainly didn't want to become a professional depressor, showing up and talking and talking about it over and over again, he says. "Imagine how depressing that would be for all of us."



Wallace: *Depression*

TWO-TIMING

After meeting in Los Angeles six years ago, Toronto-born actress Gloria Reuben is finally an "overnight" sensation. Last fall, she starred opposite Belgian actor Jean-Claude Van Damme in the historic action-adventure film *Thelma*. That part led to her current work—mainstreaming starring in two of the hottest shows on television from two of the biggest names in Hollywood. Reuben is appearing for three episodes this month on the critically acclaimed *Hillside: Life on the Street*. The



Reuben: "It is going to be good television."

A NOBLE EFFORT

She could be called one of Holly Wood's actresses—and like most comedy three days, actress Faye Dunaway has taken some knocks. The Oscar-winning Dunaway, whose past movies films include *Chinatown*, *Baran* and *Chin* and *Network*, ended the birth of her fans with such films as *Harvey* (Annette and Sargent) recently, Dunaway was crowned from the starring role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's stage production of *Sunset Boulevard* by Webber himself, who cited her lack of singing talent. But now, Dunaway is



Dunaway: "Slightly lost creature"

back in her element. Last week, she was in Toronto to guest star on the hour-long CBS television drama *Dead in America*, scheduled for broadcast in March. Dunaway says that she took the role of Countess Polanski, who visits America to attend her son's marriage to a blond man, in part, because she is a "great fan" of the show, which airs more than 120 countries, including the United States. Dunaway told *Newsweek* that she also likes the role of the Polish Countess. "She is in this condescending, slightly lost, very noble creature," Dunaway is a true queen.

hour-long set; police drama is produced by Barry Levinson, whose hit series directing credits include *Run* and *Baywatch*. As an NBC's top-rated hit she is portraying Kirk LaSalle's live-in friend, Joanne, for an individual man. Steven Spielberg is executive producer of the suspense-thriller drama. Reuben says that although the movies remain her first love, the culture of the shows and the people involved in television these days mean that she is enjoying her time in North America's living rooms. "I make a conscious decision, that if I am going to do television, it is going to be good television," she says, adding, "It's lucky I'm not a star."

Edited by BARBARA WICKLESS

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Looking for love has become a risky business

Is Dating Dead?

BY JOE CHIDLEY

Dick and Jane are two idealists—that is, fictional—North American teenagers, circa 1966. After a particularly strenuous, glove-clad encounter one day, they eye each other over soda at Pop's, the local teen hangout. Dick takes the way Jane looks in her white sports sweater, Jane, in turn, likes Dick's crew-cut and his spotty letter sweater. Back at school, Dick approaches Jane by her locker. "Want me?" he asks sheepishly. Jane responds promptly. "That would be very nice." A date is set, and Dick, wearing to impress Jane, shows up at her parents' home in his shiny old convertible. They go to a drive-in movie and watch *Rock Hudson* and *Doris Day* in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Afterwards, back at Pop's, the two order one each and two straws while Johnny Mathis sings *Chances Are* on the jukebox. They are home by 10. After a few more successful outings, the big moment comes. Dick gives Jane his sweater, meaning they are now going steady.

What happened to that simple vision of romance? North American style? It seems so out of date today as turtlenecks and beehive coifs. *Chances Are* has been replaced by Salt 'N' Pepa's *Let's Talk About Sex*, which promises that choices are pretty good indeed. McDonald's put *Pop's*—or places like it—out of business years ago. Boys have not given girls their letters since Jack Paar won off the air. Rock Hudson is dead of AIDS.

In the restless, disaffected 1990s, Valentine's Day survives, but change in the traditional scene faces a litany of challenges. People's attitudes are still in the doldrums, and they are working an average of 185 hours more a year than they were 20 years ago. Even those with time to date may wonder what the point is—the divorce rate is around 40 per cent. And there are more immediate distractions, from the threat of

date rape to the spectre of AIDS, all scrambling the codes of sexual relations.

True, single men and women—not men and boys, and women and women—are still meeting and kissing and falling in love, but not in the same way. But they are doing it in different ways. Some teens are looking on to love from the safe distance of computer bulletin board services, while others approach it cautiously through newspaper classifieds and twice-a-week dating (page 64). At the same time, even as a vocal minority of teens preaches the virtues of virginity, others are fast-forwarding through the preliminaries and becoming straight for sex. Is dating dead? No. But it sure has changed.



Happy days: bobby socks and letter mailers

In the simplest terms, dating is the first step towards propounding the species. Back in the days of Dick and Jane, it was a way for the sexes to get to know each other, while ostensibly abiding by the strict moral code of the era. Young people in the late 1960s dashed those traditions in favor of free love, and that generation's tam produced today's impatient teens. According to Sue Johnson, host of a nationally syndicated, pop-line radio program on sexuality, weekend magazines are now the news for teens. Johnson explains that the old cycle of dating—"First date, you hold hands, the second date, you hug, the third date, you may kiss, the fourth date, you're into French kissing"—has accelerated so that all these steps (and more) may be covered in a single night.

Emotionally, too, teens are jumping into love more quickly—going steady after two or three dates. One res-



son, she adds, is increasing aggressiveness of teenage women, thanks in part to having all role models like Madonna. Girls now are confident enough to ask boys out. "That is a confidence, area it breeds!" notes Johnson. "And how much of it is desperation, that you have to have a boyfriend?"

Couder Ange, a Grade 11 student at West Vancouver Secondary School, says she has "gone out"—the accepted term for a steady, informal relationship—with three boys over the past three years. She met the latest about five months ago. On their first date, they went for dinner (he paid) and then walked up and down Robson Street—only to discover that the young man's car had been towed away. "We laugh about it now," says Ange. "but it wasn't funny at the time." Within 20 hours—after he got his car back—they were "going out."

Increasingly, teenagers become a confirmed couple first, and get to know each other later. That translates 17-year-old Mira Robert, a Grade 12 student at West Vancouver Secondary. Although she went out with about 13 guys over the past two years, Robert says that what she really wants is just a solid relationship, without all the instant strings. Part of the problem is the school grapevine. Typically, mutual friends find out that so-and-so likes so-and-so, confessions are exchanged, someone smokes the call and, almost right away, "you're going out," says Robert. "You're automatically boyfriend and girlfriend without knowing each other. I don't want to go out of high school so I can go on a date."

Brian Singh, a Grade 12 student at Waterloo Collegiate Institute in south-western Ontario, agrees—but for different reasons. Singh's parents, from India, had a tradition, arranged marriage. And they do not want him to begin dating until university. Singh, 18, says he agrees with his parents but "it bothers me in a way, that I haven't done more." And he is looking forward to dating. "There are many good reasons to go to university," he adds. "but that is a good reason for none."

But for other teenagers, dating seems to have lost its allure. "You know, most people don't really date," says one Toronto 16-year-old with an air of world weariness. (Like many others, she noted that she can be identified.) She had been seeing the same guy for the past eight months—but "it wasn't really a relationship relationship." So they were never really girlfriend and boyfriend? "We never called each other that—it seems too scary-sounding," she explains. They recently broke up, but they remain friends. "I like being friends," she adds weakly. "I don't have very good relationships—they just don't seem as successful as friendships."

To her critics tell it, romance is just a holdover from the Renaissance notion of courtly love—a way to put economic or political power behind formal love. Andrea Dworkin says it is "super-collectivist with meaningful looks." But other analysts take a less judgemental view. In her 1992 best-seller, *Amazing Love*, American anthropologist Rickie Fisher suggests that whatever the cultural influences,



coming rituals are rooted in evolution. The dance date, for instance: "Around the world" Fisher writes, "men give presents [to lead] girls to love-making." And not only humans, when the male blacktippened gull swims to mate, he circles a lady but also dips into an oblique section from an abdominal secret gland. That attracts a female, who sets to nuzzling on the nose he has exposed. Meanwhile, he copulates with her.

Fisher, whose book is the basis of a Canadian-produced documentary series, *Domology of Love*, is the word in the *Discovery Channel* in early March, who suggests that certain "coupling cues" underlie a "universal mating dance." Citing research conducted on singles bars during the 1950s and 1960s, Fisher breaks the dance down into five steps: 1) the "strutting/getting" phase—men strut about with chests flared forward; women prefer eye looks or head tilts here. Next is the "recognition" phase—eye contact. Third, the "approach" stage: men crawl, or women usually start talk like "Do you have the time?" If the couple gets past Stage 3, they go on to incidental touching—Stage 4. The last stage is body synchrony: slipping from their glasses at the same time, crossing legs at the same time. "Couples that achieve total body synchrony," Fisher writes, "often leave the bar together."

Doing what comes naturally has rarely been more difficult than in the 1990s. Diane Ackerman, author of *A Natural History of Love*, says that the AIDS crisis has "brought back people who are seeking a sense of light to sex. That's a chance, but perfectly understandable. We live in a time of gloom."

The advice on dating is subtle, yet pervasive. On a recent afternoon in the GrubHubb Pub, Collier says, a modern-looking Black man, 22-year-old Beron Russell, a student at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, says, couples cope with a friend. He explains how dating—something he says he does not really do—is not all it was cracked up to be. "When I was growing up, I used to hear all about dating," says Russell, who sports a blacked-back hair above his black man's mullet. "But I never really understood what it was about. Now, I do. Not sure I ever will." Fear of AIDS, he explains, has taken away the spontaneity of relationships. "It's just too risky," he adds.

Inside him, 28-year-old Sarah Mitchell says she has recently returned to the singles scene after ending a three-year relationship that she is cautious. "I don't want to go out on a date with someone I don't know," she says. "My body says anyone within five feet is a potential and cross-referenced with friends."

When AIDS became a major health issue in the early 1980s, many doctors assumed it would make monogamy a practical necessity for gay men. In Vancouver's gay community, that is partly true. Older men in particular are more circumspect—eschewing the clubs and bars in favor of meeting through friends or at parties. And many gays and lesbians are turning to telephone personals ads and computer bulletin board services. "You log on, get to know their interests, and you decide if you want to meet that person," says Cindy Hildebrand, editor of the *Vancouver Gay and Lesbian News*. "It's a lot safer. It's a lot safer. It's much easier to sign off on someone than it is to say, 'No, I don't want to see you.'" she says.

Still, bars remain the preferred place for younger gays to meet after work. Many bars, a Vancouver community AIDS writer, notes that for many gay men, the club scene remains the doorway into sex after

hours of drawing or being presented—his—four sexual invitation. "By the time a young guy reaches the clubs," says Koo, "he is burning for love and affection. He finally meets someone and that person doesn't want to wear a condom. What does he do? He might say, 'I want to get to see a girl to be in—hell with a condom.'"

One 28-year-old junior lawyer in Toronto puts it this way: "I'm probably a guy who doesn't really die at all." The reason lies in reality, he says. "I just can't afford to look for something serious right now," he says. "Maybe in a few years, when I'm established..."

The argument makes sense. Canadians are getting married later than they used to: the median age of marriage for women in 1989 was 20.7 years, compared with 22.5 years in the 1960s, for men, the averages were 24.8 and 23, respectively. Young people are concerned about employment prospects, and women's attitudes toward the job market have meant that they increasingly put their love lives on hold until their 30s or 40s. The result is that they go searching for a mate later in life.

And then there is divorce, which now costs over 10 marriages in Canada. Divorced survivors, many of them in their 30s and 40s, are back in the singles game—and often surprised by



what they find. Kim, 36, a manager of publications for an Ottawa city organization, who separated from his wife in late 1993, started dating again last spring. Of his dating dates—he has had more than 10 since then—through work and in seeing her regularly—Kim says that women are more independent now. "They aren't looking for sugar daddies as much as they may have in the past," Kim adds.

But there are exceptions. One woman said if he had a car and, when he replied that he did not, she dumped him. Another told her "They aren't looking for sugar daddies as much as they may have in the past," Kim adds.

pre-dating performance to him. "Over control, she started with the questions," Kim recalls. The woman asked the owner's schedule of his time, where he worked, how long he had been working. "It was about as much other mother," he says. Kim assumed that "the woman was in a credit check on him. They never went out."

Joanne, a legal worker from Old Chelsea, says, "I've never been married, and at 36, she is a little bit of a bitch." "Do you really want to spend the only Saturday night you have in a week going out on a date that might not pan out?" she asks. A male friend, she recalls, once told her that "even if you sleep out of love the wrong one, maybe the last one will be it." But she says, "You have to add it all up. You spend one Saturday in a row trying to find that? When you get older, that gets tougher." In the meantime, Joanne dates casually, often



Slipping out of a Toronto nightclub: for those who ditch the bar scene, there are high-tech alternatives

and says she believes that some day, her will intervene and bring the right man to her. "There's no past looking for him," she says.

Many singles are less willing to abandon their love lives to chance, afraid instead for a match that seems to present some scientific reality. In Canadian major cities, dating services have become something of a boom industry. Peter Cracker, author of *A Consumer's Guide to Dating & Introduction Services in Canada*, lists some of the reasons for their popularity: increased isolation, meaning that people have fewer ties to community organizations; young people a sense that they are "alone in a crowd"; the fact that everyone is working longer hours, with less opportunity to meet. "The stigma against dating services has certainly changed recently," adds Cracker. "It's a lot more acceptable."

It's why Billigan, a self-described "outsider guy," began using dating services soon after moving to the Toronto area from the Northern Ontario town of Elliot Lake last July. "I wanted companionship," says the 34-year-old business professional, recently divorced from his wife of 27 years. "And the bar scene? It hasn't changed in 30 years—except that the complex those can be a lot worse." Dating services—he belongs to three—offer a way to meet nice people. Billigan says. "The people you meet," he adds, "are there for the same reason you are, for a meaningful relationship."

So far this year, Billigan has spent about \$500 on dating services—which is comparatively cheap. Some charge more than \$1,000 for referrals and a money-back guarantee of satisfaction. That is the dating industry: consumers do not always get what they pay for. Patricia, 51, a single mother from Brampton, Ont. first signed up with a dating service in 1990. "I don't work, and it seemed the best way to meet somebody who had been chosen for me. He is—what was my first mistake." In the past five years, Patricia has joined six dating agencies. "I've cost more than \$3,000. And she is using one service because it is

years of marriage, and Billigan's, a sister in her 40s who has been twice married, might seem to be the oldest of couples. She is a woman Greek national with a fiery temperament; he is the son of a Hebrew teacher. They had both been dating, without much success, for years. When the Time Out introduced them, they asked for hours alone, at all things. Macedonia independence. And before she left—another date—Billigan asked her out for dinner some time.

"Going home, I felt really good," recalls Zolt. "I felt like I was a high school kid again—a fulfilled high school kid." After that, the couple say it was a game of mutual pursuit. And now they are living together—happily—in Zolt's gay downtown life. "We have become very close," he says. "We agree, yes, but in a word hand of way, we live as one person."

Zolt probably did not know it when he left that bar, but his brain may have been interested in the time with a service called *physiologic/sexual-PTA* for short. Although the theory is not widely accepted by psychologists, some research suggests that the sympathetic state like adrenaline may play a role in the psychological effects of attraction—subjective attraction, rather than increased sociability. When people fixate on a beloved, the thinking goes, their bodies begin breaking down physiological barriers, an amino acid found in food, into PEA at breakdown speed. PEA then travels throughout the body, concentrating in the brain. The result is that tripping-up feeling of romance.

Miss, maybe it is only coincidence, but chocolate, the traditional gift of lovers on Valentine's Day, contains high amounts of phenylethylamine. Everyone knows the feeling: the sweets, the shakes, the afterglow after the first love. For all the persons at the 1990s, dating has become a search for something wonderful but unobtainable—at whatever it is. People will never stop looking for it. After all, it might be love.

With JOHN DEWITT in Halifax, ALICE FRIDMAN in Ottawa, ZACHARY CHAMBERLAIN in Toronto and MURRAY ARONOFF in Vancouver

DATING—in DOLLARS

In today's dating game, women often pay their share—a matter not just of sexual politics but of economics. Shows typical costs today and 40 years ago, net adjusted for inflation:

	1955	1995
Two movie tickets	\$1.90	\$16.00
A date dinner	6.00	45.00
A fancy dinner for two without sex	7.50	78.00
A pair of top-of-the-line theatre tickets	8.00	182.00
Scientific beer on tap (12 ounce glass)	0.23	2.95
A bottle of French champagne	13.00	85.00

Touch-tone romance

Singles reach out and court over the phone

She knows all the dates about the high-rising low-lives of flight attendants. But the 25-year-old woman, based in Vancouver, also knows that she works with different crews in different cities, talks only briefly with some passengers, and often has to be available for work on a moment's notice. That schedule says the flight attendants—aka, like many people in the dating game, asked that her real name not be used—is detrimental to any social life—and especially only my love life. Last summer, on a whim, she picked up the phone and placed a voice personal ad on a server in

Vancouver. "I'd come across a couple of success stories, and I thought, 'What have I got to lose?'" she says. "I thought, I'm obviously not going to meet people otherwise, and I just didn't feel like going through another summer like that."

It did not take long for the flight attendant, like thousands of other Canadians, to discover the world of voice personals. Young, old, gay, straight, single—and, yes, married—are launching dating services, the bar scene and many other affairs to reach out and touch someone over the phone. During the past eight years, voice personal ads have been filling an increasing number of newspaper pages in cities and towns across the country. Last week, for instance, there were about 60 such ads in Montreal's *La Presse* alone—and 30 in the Saint John Telegraph

Journal of New Brunswick. In Toronto, one radio station even has a year-old program show during which listeners can contact with advertisers. "People are choosing their partners not on the basis of circumstance or time and place, but on the basis of choice and attraction," says Derrick de Kerckhove, director of the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology at the University of Toronto. "How many times do you need to talk to somebody to know whether he or she is suitable or just a creep? Not a whole lot."

The system is simple enough: Voice personals are recorded onto a network, where they are available to other subscribers. Anyone over the age of 18 can browse through the system, listen to people's ads and leave messages in electronic outboxes. If the interest is mutual, subscribers can arrange to speak to each other and then, if possible, to meet. "You hear the voice," says Kathy Tate, who writes a relationship column for the Vancouver *Pressman*, "and that can tell you a lot about the person's education level, social level, whether they're serious." Says the Vancouver flight attendant: "When you hook up on the phone, it's better/true. You have a very comfortable, easygoing conversation and, eventually, you agree to meet somewhere." She adds, however, that while "I really had a good time," none of her dates turned into long-term romances.

But at least they came close. While prices vary from server to server, recording ads—and listening to them—is generally free; the server

only starts running when subscribers answer those ads. Toronto-based *Midwest Media City*, a voice personals giant that buys as many as 11 pages of space in Toronto's weekly *Now* magazine and boasts more than 4,000 ads at any given time, charges as little as 38 cents a minute to male users—and offers all services to women free of charge. (In a recent week, the ratio of female to male subscribers was nearly 3:1.)

David, a 28-year-old entrepreneur in Toronto, turned to voice personal ads out of frustration with the online scene.

For one of the decade since his divorce, Dave says he just played around. Now, he is ready for something more serious. "It's probably a little safer talking to a person on the phone," he says, "than meeting someone in a bar and having the bar manager put you on another."

Gerald Coleste, director of the Milwaukee, N.Y.-based Trends Research Institute, says that voice personals fit well in a society that shuns spontaneity and is often driven by fear. "We're going to put up all the safeguards we can before we expose ourselves in any way," says Coleste. "We're in a society that's becoming more and more misanthropic." It is also a society in which people are spending more hours at work than in social devices—and in which the fear of sexual harassment is rampant. Many potential office romances never had.

The office can be a turmoil in other ways. Suzanne, for instance, leaves her type of work—she does not want—a lawyer. That poses a problem for the 39-year-old Toronto woman, who works long hours as a lawyer herself. "I find male lawyers as a group to be boring—outdated, traditional, uptight, sometimes very arrogant," she says matter-of-factly. "They look the same, they act the same." Last spring, after 24 years of dating, Suzanne decided to place an ad in *The Globe and Mail's* voice personals section. "I like the fact that it's safe," she says. "It's efficient, it's free, and you get all these responses and you can just screen them out."

For Ian, a 32-year-old Toronto man who works in the television business, voice personals are a way of breaking out of his circle of married or married-to-be friends—and overcoming his admitted shyness. It just wasn't a cure, too. "For all they know, I might be five feet, two inches tall, I'm overweight, I'm a slacker, I'm divorced and perhaps a serial killer," he says. "I like to think that chatting with new girls gives them a sense of who I am." Although few subscribers view their network use as a badge of honor, most view voice personals as an interesting alternative to the more traditional ways of looking for love. "The whole concept of dating is dying," says Ian. "This is just another way of throwing yourself into the jaws of the lion."

oh let's...
go try on perfume
all the new ones
all at once
so you know who is sales
won't be able to say a thing
at the 2:00 meeting
oh let's...
phone up your broker
and just buy stocks
in that new company
after all
why be safe all the time
oh let's...
go out for dinner
and work on the report
later
oh let's...
go see that new movie
you know the one
that your favorite actor
of all time is in
even though
it's supposed to be terrible
and work on the report
much later
oh let's...
get the new issue of FLARE
and work on the report
tomorrow
beauty,
brains,
fashion.
FLARE
all there.

NORMA UNDERWOOD

Backpack

A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

Time travellers

Beyond death, taxes and Saturday night hockey, the closest thing to an absolute in nature is the urge to get away. Sensory-deprived by too few daylight hours and too much time spent indoors, carbon-frenzied Canadians dry-clean of sandy beaches, palm trees and tropical drinks by the pool. The quality feels the usual southbound migration that turns Florida into Canada's eleventh province for six months of every year. It is also why the inhabitants of distant Caribbean islands and Mexican resort towns manage to maximize the exchange rate for locals even if they do not have the slightest idea where—or who!—Exhibition is. And, of course, it is why winter has traditionally been the most profitable time of year for Canada's travel industry.

These days, however, there seem to be more reasons to stay at home than to get away. Middle-class incomes have remained frozen or in some cases declined, Ottawa is bawling clerks at possible tax hikes and the once proud Canadian dollar is doing a fine representation of the peso. Then again, even if money is not the problem, who has the time? Two hectic careers and kids in school frequently add up to No Way-Out.

The answer, in more and more Canadians are discovering, is often to scale down their concept of vacation by slipping away for three or four days rather than a week or two. The expanding market for short getaways is a key reason why travel agents in most parts of the country reported brisk business in the early weeks of the new year—especially, a slow period for the industry. "It is a lifestyle decision," says Bryan Wolfenden, corporate communications manager for Canadian Holidays. "A lot of people and don't have the time to take the one- and two-week holidays that they used to take."

The popularity of short-term holidays, agents say, has blossomed in the mid-1990s. "Since the start of the recession," Wolfenden says, "the travel industry has changed dramatically. The cost of vacations has become more of an issue with people." For now, at least, the drop in the



Swimming in the Caribbean: short trips now an easier fit for busy people's schedules.



Golfing at The Bahamas: an increasingly popular

value of the Canadian dollar is somewhat mitigated by the fact that most tour operators' package prices have been locked in since last summer. As well, the miserable plunge of the peso has opened up some inexpensive possibilities in Mexico. Whatever the reason, Canadians are finding ways to travel. Wolfenden says that Canadian Holiday's advance bookings in January were up 16 per cent over the previous year.

Cost, however, is not necessarily the quick holiday's main attraction. An extended weekend is the norm in the convenience of choice for many would-be travellers for whom family or career responsibilities are in the way of getting away. John Dale, a Toronto stockbroker and married father of two, goes diving in the Bahamas for at least one long weekend each year. "For me," Dale says, "the shorter trip works because I'm back before anyone notices me." In two-carrier households, the problem of when co-ordinating holiday times. Again, it is generally easier to take off a day on either side of a weekend than to find a free week. Harry French, director of the Canadian Tourism Research Institute, says that the getaway is simply an easier fit for most people's schedules. "Our research indicates that in the next year or two, more than 50 per cent of all holiday travel will be of the short-term variety," French says.

There are limitations to short getaways. For civilian resort, agents cautioned that travellers will get more from their three or four days if they stay at resorts where recreation, restaurants and spas are all close at hand—preferably on-site. In other words, every minute will be at a minute of holiday heaven. As well, foreign destinations are usually impractical for trips of less than a week. That means travellers from Eastern Canada should aim for the southeastern United States, the Bahamas, Bermuda and to a lesser extent, northern Caribbean islands such as Jamaica and the Dominican Republic. From Western Canada, the most popular targets are the U.S. southwest, California and Mexico.

While there is only so far people can go, there is virtually no restriction on what they can do. Tour operators who work this rich travel vein can pack up their customers on a Thursday evening, plunk them down on a golf course or at a spa by midday, and keep them busy until they get home Sunday night.

Companies that cater to recreation-oriented travellers have tended to benefit most from the increase in short-term vacations. Travelers who like to kickback and explore new areas generally book longer trips, agents say. And those looking for local recreation demand at least two weeks. But for someone who simply wants to spend every waking hour playing golf or scuba diving, a long weekend is just fine. Ed Tower, president of Toronto-based Gold Holidays, Canada's largest tour operator specializing in golf, says that short-term trips now account for 80 per cent of his business. "The three- and four-night trip has become the norm," says Tower.

The burgeoning demand for weekend getaways has caught the attention of visitor resorts. Senda, a Jamaican company that operates 10 all-inclusive Caribbean resorts, now offers three- and four-night stays at some of its beachside locations. And Florida's Disney World, traditionally synonymous with family vacations, has begun to direct its advertising at couples as well. The sprawling Orlando resort is building to attract baby boomers who might welcome the chance to leave the kids at home for an unplanned weekend at the theme parks, hot spas, tennis courts and other adult amenities. Among its amenities, the resort now boasts a Planet Hollywood restaurant at Pleasure Island, a collection of bars, nightclubs and specialty shops geared specifically to adults. "We believe that we now offer something for everyone," says The Kinney, marketing manager of Walt Disney Attractions Canada.

The trend has also spread to many of the industry's most prestigious addresses. The Shobbers, an exclusive desert retreat in the Sonoran Mountains north of Phoenix, Ariz., offers packages that look after everything from food and accommodation to recreation and restoration. Guests can eat at the renowned restaurants, lounge in the spa, play for hours on two outdoor-very golf courses, play tennis, go trail riding or take through the otherworldly 1,200-acre desert setting for which the resort is named. Three-night packages, with meals, can cost as much as \$2,389 per couple. In the cold light of day, that's a lot of money. But on an even colder winter night, mightn't it seem like a bargain?

The perfect getaway

Even brief vacations require good planning. The three-hour and five-day of the quick holiday.

- Choose a destination that is, at most, a three-hour flight from home. The shorter the trip, the sooner the fun begins.
- Make sure that all amenities are close at hand. With only three or four days to spare, it is important not to waste time shuttling between the hotel and the golf course or beach.
- Travellers to the United States can still take some of the exchange-rate pain by booking package deals through Canadian tour operators.

Muscle bound

Personal trainers routinely perform miracles on famous physiques. Hours in the gym with a trainer changed Madonna from soft-bodied boy toy to muscular girl, transformed actress Kathleen Turner, for her role in the action comedy *Undercover Blues*, from pudgy to wiry in 10 short weeks, and made Tom Hanks look alarmingly underweight for his Academy Award-winning performance as an AIDS victim in *Hush*. But in the past few years, increasing numbers of movie-rich and famous North Americans have muscled in on the act. "The trend to personal trainers started on the West Coast," says Christopher West, a certification coordinator with the nonprofit Ontario Fitness Council. "Now it has moved from the stars to the mainstream."

Although there are no reliable statistics on the number of personal trainers working in Canada, the trend is clearly up and running. "It is the fastest growing specialty in the fitness industry," says Suzanne Charest, a project director with the government-funded National Fitness Leadership Advisory Committee in Ottawa. Some enthusiasts, coveting fit star bodies, are simply looking for a quick fix. "We get clients who say, 'This is a 30 and I want to fit into a size 6,'" says Vancouver trainer Dan MacLean. But MacLean adds that health is now as strong a motivator as body image. Arthritis, osteoarthritis, spinal-cord ailments and over-weight executives are all seeking the undivided attention of their own personal fitness expert. Vancouver trainer Charles Curtis, whose clients have included rock stars Jon Bon Jovi and members of the band Ratt, attributes the boom in North America's increasing sophistication in health matters. "They want more than looks," says Curtis. "They want to have the energy to compete and survive in the Nineties."

While having a personal trainer is still a status symbol as some careers, it is no longer as luxury for the privileged few. Rates across Canada range from about \$10 an hour to more than \$100. Peter Steele, a partner in a Vancouver sex consulting company, earns a personal trainer at a gym three times a week at \$60 a session—the only time he can fit in into a busy schedule. "If I weren't paying a trainer," says Steele, 38, "there are days when I wouldn't show up." Steele, who follows a low fat diet as well as an exercise regime, says that he has lost 20 to 30 lbs since start-



■ **Pit** (with weights) and **Steele** demand for personal trainers is bubbling

ing the program 18 months ago. "I see a real increase in energy," says Steele. "It is able to stay a lot more focused." The one-on-one attention of a trainer can make a big difference for those who are going nowhere on their home rowing machines. Some clients say Curtis only need a two or three-session "tune-up" to evaluate their workouts. Others are ready for a longer-term commitment to lose weight or improve muscle tone. Typically, a trainer

One trainer says clients 'want the energy to survive in the Nineties'

starts by assessing a client's fitness level, then designs an exercise program to meet his or her needs and lifestyle. Some include sports like inline skating, jogging or cycling. Vancouver's Steele sometimes plays basketball with his trainer. "It gives me a chance to do something besides stand in the 'Swimsuit'," he says. "It also improves my skills at the game."

Whatever the activity, a good trainer provides constant feedback. "My trainer does quality control for me," says Sandra Nal, a Montreal-based clinical therapist. "I get steady and a lot of things in my mind require the right form or else they are a waste of time." Like a good coach, a competent trainer also motivates and inspires. "It's easy to slack off when I'm feeling tired," says

Dorothy Wacian, a Montreal property manager. "But my trainer keeps the pace and challenge up." Sometimes, trainers also become confidants. "Clients will tell you things they won't tell their spouse," says Curtis. "You inevitably become quite close."

Too close, on occasion. "I hear of trainers who sleep with their clients," says David Seively, a Montreal trainer and host of a no-censor show on TBS. Seively adds that he is "very careful" about who he works with since he has been stalked and harassed by female clients in the past.

Unfortunately for consumers, finding a reliable trainer is not always easy. The last area is not regulated in Canada, and so far only Ontario and British Columbia have published guidelines. "All you have to do is print a business card and be in shape," says Seively. Adds Edmonton trainer Kevin Arnatt, "There's a lot of quackery out there." For that reason, Curtis recommends asking friends for referrals and requesting proof of a trainer's credentials.

The good news is that the National Fitness Leadership Advisory Committee is now working with eight organizations from across the country to develop a series of national standards for personal trainers. Also, within the past year the Canadian Personal Trainers Network and the Canadian Personal Trainers Network, independently issued their own certification programs—and both Montreal's McGill University and Toronto's York University recently introduced new courses for personal trainers. Like a bodybuilder's biopsy, the demand for one-on-one fitness experts is big and getting bigger.

SEAN DOUGLAS-BREWER

OVER ONE MILLION FRIENDS A WEEK ARE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT!

Rita & Friends

IT'S ALL CANADIAN... IT'S A HIT!

CBC Television

FRIDAYS - 8 P.M.

Backpack

Happy returns

If there is one task for which computers are ideally suited, it is organising. With a few simple keystrokes or the click of a mouse button, even a basic desktop model can sort mind-boggling masses of disorderly data into neat, tidy categories, vastly simplifying many of life's more tedious chores. Little wonder that hundreds of thousands of Canadians now count on their home computers to help manage their personal finances—keeping track of everything from grocery bills to the interest earned on guaranteed investment certificates. The next logical step, for an increasing number of people, is to put that same processing power to work filing out their tax returns. A good file-preparation program can not only avoid hours of frustration, it can also save money by catching mistakes and alerting users to deductions they might otherwise have overlooked.

Almost everyone who has tried one of these software packages has become con-

vinced of their value. "Back when I used to do my taxes with a pencil and paper, I was never really sure whether I was paying too much," recalled Dave Godin, a Canadian Forces warrant officer who lives in London, Ont. Three years ago, acting on a friend's

**Computers
can make the job
of filing taxes
less painful**

recommendation, Godin bought a copy of CanTax T1, one of Canada's most widely used tax programs. "It took me a while to figure out how to use the software," he said. "But every year since then, I've felt like it is saving me money. The program lets every

possible deduction and expense, given me a lot of 'what if' scenarios and prompts me if I forgot to fill something out."

Of course, there are some problems that even a computer cannot solve—among them, deciding which tax program to buy. There are at least 30 in the market, each of which is revised every year to take account of the latest Revenue Canada rules and regulations. As if that is not confusing enough, consider the advertising claims of the three most popular brands: CanTax T1 ("Canada's number 1 income tax software"), Brian Cantello's Home Tax ("Canada's number 1 best-selling tax software") and WinTax ("Canada's number 1 Windows tax software").

Who is telling the truth? Unlike many tax returns, the companies' sales claims are not independently audited, so there is no way to be sure. But industry experts say that combined sales of the three products are likely to top \$200-million this year, at prices ranging

from about \$30 to \$46 a copy. Microsofts are common. Although they began as separate companies, both CanTax and Home Tax are now divisions of SoftKey International Inc. of Cambridge, Mass. WinTax, launched in Edmonton in 1992, was purchased a year ago

by private tax credits back when it was possible to estimate a family's total tax burden. And each allows the user to export information from any of the more popular financial-management programs, such as Intuit's Quicken or Microsoft Money, although in most cases the data will have to be converted first to a standard ASCII format (a relatively simple procedure). Finally, all three can print out the completed return on any of 70 or more Revenue Canada-approved forms, using a dot-matrix printer or laser printer.



WinFax's GIBRAM version 3.0 helps money-saving tips

by U.S.-based Intuit, which, in turn, was taken over last fall by giant Microsoft Corp. of Seattle, Wash.

In practice, each program does an excellent job at calculating a return quickly and accurately, while offering simple advice on exemptions and deductions. All feature the ability to prepare two returns simultaneously,

in DOS and Windows versions, for every province except Quebec (which has its own more knowledge on the part of the user. For maximum advantage, first-time users should probably devote some time to exploring the program before writing out a complete tax return. Home Tax (price and Windows version for all provinces, Macan-

tish versions for all except Quebec) has tried to simplify the process with an on-screen "Easy Prep conveyor belt" that guides the user through the return. At times, though, the animated device—like the unnecessarily complicated 54-page user's manual—adds to the confusion, making it easy to become disoriented. The program also has a busy look that may leave users befuddled.

The best choice for most novice and intermediate computer users—as well as those who had tax filing as a chore in frustration—is probably WinTax (Windows only, all provinces). The company is also releasing a Macintosh version this year called QuickTax. MacTax's "Easy Step" interview method takes users line-by-line through the tax return, asking questions that can generally be answered with a simple yes or no. The approach is easy to follow and the 25-page manual is concise and well written.

Whichever brand of tax software they choose, buyers whose computers are equipped with a compact disc (double-speed or better) should look for the new multimedia versions of these programs. For the same price, users get additional advice and money-saving suggestions delivered by expert talking heads in a small, concise video window. The bells and whistles won't exactly make it fun, but they might at least divert attention from the more painful aspects of tax filing.

ROSE LIVEN

And now for something completely different, showers in London.

Now Club World and First Class passengers arriving at Heathrow can enjoy a hot shower,

breakfast and valet pressing service in our business day Drop by and see for yourself Arrivals Lounge. It's a fresh start to anywhay it's making such a splash.

CLUB WORLD
BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline

Backpack Calendar

Getting through winter with sleigh rides, dogsled races and Formula One cars

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Feb. 13-April 2 Jack Shadwell Exhibition, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. Prints, watercolors and drawings from the Second World War as the journey by the prolific and influential British Columbian artist.
Feb. 12-17, 19 Snow Leds, Snow Leds Theatre, Vancouver. The American Ballet Theatre and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra combine to present Tchaikovsky's classic ballet.

ALBERTA

Feb. 26-28 Calgary Winter Festival. A collection of winter-recreational events ranging from a Mardi Gras party at Olympic Plaza to outdoor sports in Canada Olympic Park.
Feb. 19-March 4 Canada Winter Games, Grande Prairie. The nation's largest annual winter sporting event is expected to draw 3,500 athletes and coaches at 31 events.

SASKATCHEWAN

Feb. 28-31 *Bella*, Centennial Auditorium, Saskatoon. Eight performances of Andrew Lloyd Webber's internationally popular 1973 hit about the wife of Argentine dictator Juan Perón.

MANITOBA

March 20-22 Winnipeg Premiere Program, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Centennial Concert Hall. The Royal presents four works new to Winnipeg, including the Canadian premiere of Tanya Tanya's innovative 1970 modern dance piece, *Green Chapel IV*.

ONTARIO

Feb. 17-20 Canadian International Auto Show, Metro Toronto Convention Centre and SkyDome, Toronto. More than 250,000 visitors are expected to attend 1,000

cars and trucks at Canada's largest automotive show. Additional attractions include an outdoor Formula One test track and, for the first time, a \$1-million Formula One hydraulic simulator that recreates the feeling of accelerating from zero to 100 km/h in 2.2 seconds.

Feb. 22, 23, 28 *Four Good Men* Theatre, Inc. Toronto. The Toronto Symphony Orchestra's concert version of Healey Raabe's 1987 dramatic poem, with music by Edward Greg, is read by renowned actor Christopher Plummer. The production also features the combined forces of the 750 Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and



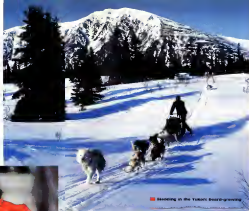
■ 1994 Canadian women's champion Julie Sutton: booming sport

Time to curl

It's championship season in curling. Canada's silver goes on ice. In the last weeks of winter, months before holiday feasts wrap up, curlers across the country show in hundreds of tournaments. In smaller competitions, such as the one hosted by the Top of the World club in Dawson City, Yukon, to the sport's crowning events, the Scott Tournament of Hearts, the women's national championship, which will be held this year in Calgary from Feb. 18 to 26, and the men's version, the Lakeshore, scheduled for March 4 to 12 in Halifax.

In Canada, simply the world's greatest curling nation, the sport is booming. In 1994, for the first time Canada scored a draw in its international competition. The men's and women's world titles and the junior men's and women's. That sort of success, coupled with

curling's expanding arrival as a full medal event at the next Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, in 1998, has fueled a curling surge. Participants now number 1.5 million, according to the Canadian Curling Association, and there's curling everywhere. Curlers are expected to watch at least part of the televised final of each of the 1995 men's, women's and world championships (held in Brandon, Man., in early April). The professional title of the game is also flourishing. The World Curling Tour, known as the Gold Tour, now features more than 70 such tournaments as well as top curlers such as Rick Fiddler of Kelowna, B.C.'s 1994 Brier and world champion. Full-time curlers such as former world champion Russ Howard of Ontario can earn more than \$100,000 a season. A modest income by NHL standards, perhaps, but at least curlers don't have to play in June.



■ Sledding in the Yukon's snow-covered

great valleys. Monica Wheeler, soprano, and Norrie Burgess, mezzo-soprano.

March 2 Courtenay, National Museum of Science and Technology, Ontario. The opening of a new permanent gallery dedicated to the history of electric and electronic communications in Canada, from the telegraph to fibre optics and satellites, is facilitated by the museum's tour of exhibits.

QUEBEC

To April 9 Gauguin and the Post-Impression School, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition features over 180 works by Paul Gauguin, Émile Bernard and their circle, all of whom worked in Brittany in the late 19th century.

March 16-15 *Love of Joe at the Stars*, Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Charles Dutoit leads the orchestra in an adaptation of French composer Arthur Honegger's dramatic oratorio, complete with children's choirs.

NEW BRUNSWICK

March 10-17 St. Patrick's Week, Saint John. In the Irish style, the Irish Pub Night is held before the celebration's Grand Opening and "wearing of the green."

NOVA SCOTIA

Feb. 20-25 Nova Scotia Kinetic Music Festival, Dalhousie Arts Centre, Halifax. More than 10,000 student performers

compete for scholarships and cash prizes in various instruments, choirs and individual voice.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

March 6 Spring Splash, Mill River Provincial Park. Despite the name, the event is actually a last chance for winter sports, as snow-driven sleighs take participants to the skating and skiing areas. The taste of spring comes with the children's treats—but maybe sugar-coated and stretched in snow.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Feb. 20 Ballet Odéon Columbia, Arts and Culture Centre, Lunenburg City. The 16 classically trained dancers of the ballet's fourth largest ballet company perform three pieces, including a tribute to master John Alroy's *The New Blender*.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

March 1-5 Kluana Carnival, Hay River Reserve. Traditional Dene games accompanied by dog sled races and a major bus show on the south shore of Great Slave Lake.

YUKON

Feb. 20-26 Yukon Sourdough Race, Dawson, Whitehorse. The Gold Rush year of 1898 is recreated with such events as dog sled races, trap and snapper competitions, beard-growing contests and canoe shows.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

MOVIES

Denise Me Outside Canadian director Bruce McDonald and a native cast adapt M. J. Kowale's tale of life on the reserve.

Queen Margot Wine Lili's mother to Isabelle Adjani in a screen version of the Alexander Dumas classic. The *Secret Life of Women* with John Gielgud stars-down realism to suit his tale about a mage and that turns into a woman.

Looking for Alibi A drama about interracial adoption: Jessica Lange is a social worker who adopts Hale Berry's baby.

For Love or Greed It stars in an award-winning saga by Zhang Yimou (who the Red Lantern) spanning 50 years of modern Chinese history.

VIDEO

Sleep with Me Eric Stoltz and Meg Tilly star in a lively Generation X story of seduction.

Frash A gritty, beautifully acted ghetto drama about a black teenager who outwits cool gangsters in the drug biz.

Calendar Canadian director Allen Eggert and his wife, Annie Kluge, star in a rock home movie about a couple who drift apart after a bus to America.

Rough Run Set on Baker Island, this Tiki turkey is about, enjoyably bad, with lots of great scenery and ten kids.



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The Grande Games

Cherril and Dave Parsons' house town of Lethbridge, N.M., was drinking of life. Crop prices were down and the money was falling. And then one night late last summer, something broke into the Parsons' estate cabbage crop, reviving a summer's work. That was the final blow. In September, the Parsons packed up all the clothes and pots and pans they could own into trailers and flew out to Grande Prairie (population 20,000), a patch of barrens, 400 km northwest of Edmonton. It took Dave Parsons just six hours after he landed in town to find a job as a carpenter. A week later, a rival employer walked boldly into his job site and handed him work at no extra \$3 an hour. In the meantime, Cherril had found a job as a food-desk clerk at a local store, where she can work all the overtime she can handle—and more this month when the Canada Games come to town and all the hotels and banquet rooms will be packed. "It's easy here," says Cherril Parsons, 28. "Absolutely easy."



Cherril Parsons is growing Grande Prairie. "It's easy here."

the local Alberta Mobilized Drug Abuse Clinic. Organizers have provided 600 outdoor sports park to a city services facility, and they hired two people full time. It's years ago to make arrangements for residents to open their houses. "We've tried to attract every sector of accommodation," says Galters general

that caused much head-scratching in town—but Games officials eventually provided. Last week, organizers were installing phones and faxes, hanging batons and otherwise putting the finishing touches on venues. And minutes, along with their guests, from the provincial Grande Prairie Convention Centre—who have been building contractors and potlucks, and cleaning trash in the North Centre for more than three years—were making last-minute adjustments. "It's better out here doing something fresh than sitting in the centre, waiting away," says Bob Marks, 23, who is serving 13 months for a crime he said he would rather not discuss.

Meanwhile, suppliers last week were beginning to deliver juice and other nonperishable foods to the athletes' village, the first stream in a shopping list that includes 35,000 litres of milk, 500 kg of cheese and 6,000 kg of meat—plus 20 steers for two boxes of beef steaks. And visitors were consulting the other volunteers—there will be 7,000 in all. "I couldn't imagine not being involved," said Joana Wright, the 50-year-old chemist at participant accreditation, who has worked on the project for

five years. "Especially these days when the country's being threatened by a split, another sport gets people on friendly terms more than anything else—except maybe Christmas."

After all the work and controversy, Wright and she from the kitchen when the Games are over. And among longtime residents there is a more generalized fear that what unseasoned newcomers (supplies call an economic boom could come crashing to a halt so quickly as the last one did. "You're not going to use the 30-year-old yard" asks an isolation Chamber of Commerce president Michael O'Connor. During the last oil boom boom, in the late 1970s, he said, there were tens of cities of workers who could not find accommodation. Construction companies building furiously in cash in oil demand were left with hundreds of unsold houses when the crash came in 1982. "We just want steady growth," and O'Connor. Last week, though, the only thing still about of Grande Prairie was the constant stream of 15-wheelers and service trucks along the highway into town, past the Canada Games welcome. Incoming light airfields within Canadian flags. Then again, as every last ground piece will almost there are some rooms to be called than bookrooms.

The XVth Canada Games come to a booming Alberta town

manager Kerry Mayhew. And with more than 500 visitors already booked in houses and more space available, he says "now everyone has the call to that we have room here." The 3,500 coaches, managers and competitors, including such up-and-coming stars as David Milutinovic in figure skating and Montreal gymnast Martin Fauriol, will stay at an athletes' village—new aluminum trailers loaned for the occasion and spruced up with music-lug facilities.

Even Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will make an appearance for opening ceremonies. He originally declined the invitation—news

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MEDIA WATCH



The criminal trial as sport spectacle

BY GEORGE BAIN

In the first days of the O.J. Simpson trial proper, as distinct from all the preliminary, I watched as some professor of law told me what the prosecution and the defence had in mind to do as doing what I had just seen done, and how the jury might be affected by it, and whether the prosecution or the defence was or was not, *Pow!* and immediately turned to see where any copy was of *Amazing Graphics in Death: Public Displays in the Age of Show Business*, by Paul Postman.

Pow! is an examination inspired by John Madden, a former coach of the NFL, San Francisco 49ers, previously on CBS, now on Report Madden's Fox Network. He uses *Pow!* evidently to characterize the dramatic nature of the event, the clash of bodies and all that. The larger part of his job is to explain things like how his team erred in not leaving things like the field goal from an easy 20 yards out but elected instead to try for the touchdown, and what the coach of the team now behind would need to do to turn things around in the second half. Etcetera. In other words.

Madden's conviction to the O.J. Simpson trial is not, except that his shock as a football commentator once inadvertently to read as I watched that legal commentator as Los Angeles. His and Madden's taskings were the same. First that realization, it was just a step in *Amazing Graphics in Death* in that book, published by Penguin Books in 1993, a central point is that the trouble with television is its being devoted entirely to supplying its audience with entertainment. Football is entertainment, criminal trials are barely being so. Before long, one of that away color commentators of the courtroom at the O.J. Simpson trial will spring out of the pack in a state and will be signed by CNN as a regular.

Postman does not argue that all television is entertainment, but that in whatever it tries, television is obliged to be engaging. The effect in total, either way, is to be simply true.

Albeit that the quality of public discourse is reduced to very little, largely because in presenting news to us packaged as spectacle, television induces other media to do the same. Removing the idea of color commentators from sports is part of giving them a form of contact with which the public is not familiar by putting it on a plane with one that is, thus, both become sport spectacles.

I don't know how long sports-type coverage has been recognized as integral to television coverage of criminal trials, considering news to us packaged as spectacle, television induces other media to do the same. Removing the idea of color commentators from sports is part of giving them a form of contact with which the public is not familiar by putting it on a plane with one that is, thus, both become sport spectacles.

Levinson's conclusion from her experience on a legal color commentator was that legal experts were better able to decipher the meanings of the law for the jury. Also, they would know more accurately when the performances of the players slipped from the proper procedure. And she felt they could

exchange the important exchanges of a day's story more readily and more accurately than journalists, which may or may not be so. Levinson herself found that more a "Yes, but..." proposition. Biggers had at least a handbook, responsibility to approach events objectively: the freelance courtroom expert, she concluded, was under no restraint if inclined to propagandize his or her own ideas on the law.

She did not go into the matter of the legal commentator whose criticisms of the conduct of a trial could have the effect, intended or not, of exerting pressure on the players by bringing public opinion to bear. It is an action that public opinion doesn't belong in criminal trials. There, the public interest, by design, is directed to a panel of lay persons, as little prejudiced as possible, who will determine under the guidance of a judge as to the law, whether the facts and arguments resembled this side are more persuasive than those of the other.

Pow! John Madden's shtick as a football color commentator came automatically to mind as I watched the O.J. Simpson hearings.

A further proposition in *Amazing Graphics in Death*, to return to that, is that television serves us most usefully when presenting public entertainment (and most of which it co-opts various modes of discourse—news, politics, science, education, commerce, religion, its which may be added, criminal trials) in a form which is a perfect entertainment package. We would all be better off if television got worse, not better. Ten years later, it can be assumed he is remembered, it is.

Another proposition is that television does not claim that the public may contemplate observations of its own with the end-less sophistication of its content. "What we watch is a spectacle which presents information to a form that renders it simplistic, non-inductive, non-bacterial, and non-controversial... In America, we are never denied the opportunity to amuse ourselves."

And again, "When a population becomes distracted by trivia, when public life is reduced to a perpetual round of entertainment, when serious public conversation becomes a form of busy talk, when, in short, a people become an audience and their public business a variable life, then a nation drifts itself at risk, culture-death is under proceeding."

But none of that applies to us. Well, just all of it: those Super Bowl of criminal justice, in particular—the trial over Rodney King's beating, the trial of the lady who chopped her husband's thigh off, the O.J. Simpson case—was James' last regularly like any one of these. But, to quote Ned Postman again, "Americans have loved for ages and in bringing to a close the age of the showman, we are now entering over all of their institutions." We have been done. But the CNN—surprisingly appropriate—reportedly by The Globe and Mail, which will live by that slow-moving printed word—has taken the coincidence of all O.J. Simpson trial in California and a Bernardo trial in Ontario to mean the effort to put cameras in the courts and have another matchless spectacle. *Post!*

THIS MUSICIAN'S

BUSINESS JUST

GOT WARPED.



Like many great musicians, Joe Anzato does his best work by pounding the keys. Joe is the owner of Beldbrina

Music Publications Inc., a prospering, one person company that promotes Canadian jazz music around the world. However, the keys

we're referring

to are the ones on his computer.

And when not writing music, he's e-mailing invoices to his distributor in Germany. At the same time, he's printing out 300 pages of his own compositions. While at the same time, he's faxing off a session confirmation to Montreal. And if an Internet cruiser in Stockholm requests a sampling of his talents, she can download a 15 second audio clip.

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Healing the broken body

A show is steeped in the fears and hopes of breast-cancer survivors

BY SHARON DOYLE DIEDERGER

Nobody expected Ilse Mary Gader to last this long. In October, 1992, the Montreal woman learned that she had breast cancer so advanced that it had penetrated her lungs. "They told me I had six months to a year to live," says Gader of Gader, who now often stands alone on the sidewalk outside the hospital, frozen in shock. "I didn't know what to do or where to go." Soon after, the single Gader left her job as a museum exhibit assistant and focused on fighting for her life. Then, says Gader, she had the opportunity to share the story of her struggle with Montreal artist Catherine Widgery. Inspired by Gader's courage, Widgery created a sculpture that expresses the emotional upheaval of breast cancer. "What she experienced became very physical and real to me," says Widgery. "That made it very poignant."

Widgery and Gader—artist and survivor—are participants in an ambitious national art project. Gader is one of 300 Canadian women with breast cancer who candidly tell the intimate physical and emotional details of their enduring to 34 of the country's top female artists, none of whom actually had the disease. They gathered last year in small groups, in every position, in homes, studios and hotel rooms. Then, steeped in the pain, fears and hopes of the survivors, the artists—including such renowned painters as Mary Pratt of Newfoundland and Winnipeg's Wendy Ross—recreated their stories in creative art that would reflect that experience. The result is an exhibition called *Servicing the Search of a Voice: The Art of Courage*, which opens at the Royal Ontario Museum at Toronto this week, and then travels to Halifax, Calgary, Winnipeg, and Vancouver over the next two years.



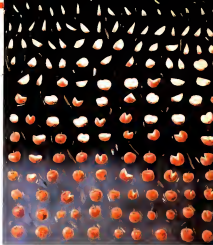
Like the AIDS Memorial Quilt, which has been touring the United States since 1987, *Servicing* is a collective effort that was conceived to draw attention to a devastating illness. The idea of healing high art with the hard reality of breast cancer originated with Toronto painter Joan Chalmers and her partner, Audrey Aneshensy. They were determined to help fight the disease, which strikes one in nine Canadian women—and which had killed several of their friends. "We wanted to create a powerful symbol of the breast-cancer movement," says Aneshensy, "one that women could own." The \$500,000 show, announced by Chalmers's Woodlawn Arts Foundation, will be made available to major galleries across the country for free, on the understanding that cancer secretaries and activist groups in each province could use it to raise funds and awareness of the disease. "We put art where we believe it should be—in the cutting edge of social change," says Aneshensy. "What better weapon for social change than art?"

Servicing covers the spectrum of contemporary art, from painting and sculpture to installation and video. There is a wide range, too, in the artists' response to the subject of breast cancer. The stern-faced lines of fear and anger emerge in some of the works. Dorothy Isenhardt in the subtle, layered collage that dominates a large quilt by Montreal visual artist Barbara Todd. And Toronto photographer Barbara Cole's three self-portraits, in which she sits out the milky white of breast cancer, are an evocative sense of survival and even triumph. In her poignant sculpture, *Urbicide*, 1992, artist Joan Buckler created a woman who is embraced by the beauty of a butterfly, and by her own new reverence for life. Other works, such as Toronto artist Collette Whelan's beaded

brace, which shows "There, there, there" in a black and red script, mock the word as a community's pain relief, at least, to words that cause pain. And Vancouver artist Gailie Phil's beautiful camera *Red Apple*—showing rows of apples that are consistently smaller pieces—gently looks at the pain of surgery and the strength required to survive it.

Chalmers and Aneshensy, both experienced performers, brought the artists, represented in *Servicing* that consulting respected authorities in the art community. They say that one prominent artist declined the commission, arguing that creating a work on breast cancer was "not a great career move." But 300 women did accept the challenge offered by the Woodlawn Arts Foundation. "They were given total artistic freedom," says Aneshensy. "There only obligation was to give voice to what they heard." Gader said that "unless you have had breast cancer, you really don't know anything about it." Aneshensy explains that she and Chalmers arranged for the artists to meet with survivors of all ages, at all stages of the disease.

Many of the artists were deeply affected by their contact with the survivors. Ross, 43, could not work for two weeks after hearing firsthand about the suffering of women with breast cancer. "I was devastated by their stories," says the internationally renowned painter. "As a woman, you also feel the possibility you're next." She added that because much of her work deals with the human condition, the experience was "not a huge stretch artistically." But Ross chose a few medium for *Servicing*. She painted a series of video stills onto a large banner to create *Servicing From Ross's* black-and-white images of subjects ranging from women's faces to garlands of beads—a collage that has quality and document what she calls "our shared journey" through breast cancer.



■ *Phil's Red Apple: Buckler's Anne (left): some poems are embroidered, but others convey a sense of triumph*

and "how we have to deal with whatever comes our way."

Edmonton artist Jane Ash Patra, who has a Cree and Chippewyan background, views her participation in *Servicing* as a natural extension of her art and her native culture. "From time immemorial," says Patra, 43, "Indians were artists. The sick and troubled, the copious, would relate their dreams to shamans, healers, who would then pass the message on to the people who would lead to a cure." "I heard the voices of the women with breast cancer," says Patra about her role in *Servicing* "and interpreted them to the community. Canada, our arena from all and break down the fear." Patra's tortoise-shell-shaped collage (left) appears to dwell, taking the voices of 12 women who have died of breast cancer, and celebrates hope, showing phrases of survivors. The back of her free-standing piece is a black-board covered with chalk. Covered that art has the power to heal, Patra says survivors to write their stories on her work "to give testimony to their own stories."

Survivors led some artists to change the way they work. "It was very intense," says

Widgery, 42. "We were given such a specific focus, we did the research with people and we entered into a relationship with them." She says she frequently discussed her work with Gader, who provided feedback and information about breast cancer. "The personal contact was so important," says Widgery, whose *untitled sculpture* is composed of 28 breast-shaped bottles containing striking organic forms. The work, on close inspection, has ominous undertones: the bottles have the clinical feel of test tubes, and their contents evoke caustic growths. In creating this sculpture, Widgery paid more attention to potential viewers than she has for any of her other works. "I very much felt this piece needed to be accessible to a broader audience," says Widgery, "and at the same time, I wanted it to be appreciated in the most intimate community." Gader, now bedridden with pain and reduced to 85 pounds, has not yet viewed the art that she inspired, but she was determined to attend the opening of the exhibit on Feb. 15. *Servicing* is "my music, my story," says Gader. "It carries the message of hope that we will fight on the day of need be, and that one day women will not die of breast cancer." □



■ *Patra's collage, the artist (top) bearing the voices of the women's and interpreting them*



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The Financial Post



Bergmann: heroin and a tendency to self-destruction

MUSIC

Rock and a hard place

Some of the best rock 'n' roll—from Lou Reed to The Rolling Stones—has crisscrossed through the grim realism of the street. Unlike many pop artists to first hit Vancouver's Art Bergmann has actually walked on the wild side, long with prostitutes and drug addicts in the city's seamy past and while writing some of the greatest, most literate material in Canadian rock. *Guns and Heroin*, one song from his latest album, *What Fresh Hell Is This?*, is a case in point: It arose out of an experience Bergmann had in the early 1980s, when he was a member of the Vancouver band Los Populares. A man who reported \$10,000 in one of the group's recordings turned out to be a drug dealer looking to launder some money. And things got ugly when the dealer grew impatient about his involvement and began threatening violence. Recalls Bergmann, now 32, "The guy started coming around, high on Quaaludes, waving his gun and demanding money. The next thing I know, he's on the front page of the newspaper, in jail for first-degree murder. I thought, 'Wow, that's pretty close.'"

Now, four years later, the singer/guitarist is back, having kicked his drug habit and returned to a quiet room full of books and music. And there are signs that this could be Bergmann's time. Contrast the first single from his new album, is playing on both mainstream and alternative radio stations across the country. And Robin Walters, Berg's domestic product manager believes that musical trends have caught up with Bergmann's new sound. "This record might have been way out there in the mid-'60s," says Walters, "but with the shift to punk rock groups like Green Day do quite mainstream."

She adds: "Our company has Canada's post laureate with Leonard Cohen and now his punk laureate with Art Bergmann." The story of being on the second major label—let alone being compared to a nine-album figure like his hero Cohen—is not lost on Bergmann, once dubbed "lord of the underground" by adopting music critics in a recent interview, the surprisingly self-confident musician offered a somewhat pessimistic on his newfound stature as he approaches the age of 40: "The job of writing music of contradictions," laughs Bergmann. The hint with

the longest record coming in the world, yet The Beatles out there for so long that it's kind of hard to be new and point me in one direction." He adds: "People talk about my legend, but I've earned it and all that crap. But all I've done is live to the best of my ability, which is moment to moment."

Bergmann's chaotic past lends a reckless intensity to some of the songs on *What Fresh Hell Is This?*, many of which were written in the spring of 1993, during his harrowing time from heroin. The soaring cut, *Heaven in Hellmouth*, contrasts the twisted emotions of adulthood with a sweet yearning for youth. Another, the raging *Some Fresh Hell*, seems to offer a nightmarish depiction of heroin as well as Bergmann's risky vice years. "Like a vampire awakened, all your friends are nearly dead," but there are also examples of the songwriter's classic wit in such songs as *Catfish*, which takes a very view of his new record deal, and his more vulnerable side on the romantic ballad *Woe to My God Is This*.

Oddly enough, despite his shady past, there is a strong ethical line to much of Bergmann's work, which he credits to his Mexican parents. Growing up in Vancouver's suburbs, he would sing Mexican songs in the living room, with a broomstick for a guitar. He joined his first band, the Schencks, in 1977. But with the arrival of punk rock, Bergmann moved downtown and performed with a number of influential groups, including the Young Canadians, Los Populares and Posedent. Two solo albums followed, *Great with Me* (1986) and *Sausal Busto* (1988), with a hit track that is a chilling account of romance in the era of AIDS. "Then came the self-titled album, an *Unlabeled*, which sold poorly despite spawning a hit. According to Tom Harrison, veteran rock critic at the Vancouver Province, *What Fresh Hell Is This?* proves Bergmann's resilience as an artist. "He's still happy," says Harrison. "And although he goes right to the brink, he's smart enough to pull back."

Art Bergmann has been to hell and back

Still, going to the brink can be costly. Art Bergmann, an actor and reader (Dorothy Parker and Gertrude Stein) are in-terested who lives in a one-bedroom apartment in Vancouver's west and with his wife, Sherry (December 20), and their 14-year-old daughter, Neron, know that better than most. He expresses an affinity with Karl Cohen, who told a friend in April, 1994, "It's always nice to hear a kindred voice through the darkness." Adds the musician: "My material comes from desperate living, which I get a lot for. And the fact that you come out to see to know every word, which breaks good. But it doesn't pay the rent." With his new album, however, Bergmann signs his book "sincerely." Then, remembering how his career has self-destructed before, he adds "I'd like to be promoted not to pull a Hushabye until this one is not in store."

NICHOLAS JENNINGS

Prisoners of time

BORDERLINE

By Peter Høeg
Translated by Barbara Harland
(Doubleday, 277 pages, \$27.95)

When Peter Høeg's novel, *Smilla's Sense of Snow* was released in 1992, it caused a sensation, generating rave reviews and resid-

ing as best-seller lists for months. It also served the accident. The third novel by Danish author Peter Høeg—and the first to be translated into English—*Smilla* was a gripping thriller that took its audience emotionally cold because of a mysterious journey from the wind and snow of Copenhagen to the glaciers off Greenland in

search of answers to a 50-year-old boy's death. In Høeg's latest novel, *Borderline*, the setting is once again Copenhagen, but while snow was the agent that ran through *Smilla*, the new book is permeated with—and at times bogged down by—an inquiry into the nature of love.

The story begins in the early 1970s when the narrator, a young teenager named Peter, is in his 20th birthday. Abandoned in infancy, Peter has been sheltered from children's battles and school until the Royal Orphanage, better known in its students as *Cruelty House* "because of the cruelty they had to make do with instead of proper love." After a teacher tries to rape Peter in a bathroom booth, the boy is sent to a boarding school in Bleib's Academy, an elite private school attended mostly by bright children from well-to-do families but also by a few "borderline"—marginal cases like Peter. He is so maladjusted when he

arrives that during his first year at Bleib's he gains 37½ pounds and grows 18 inches. Inside the oppressive academy, order rules. Teachers monitor the children's every move, and punishment for such crimes as not keeping perfectly still during assembly often takes the form of beatings. Quarts between floors are kept locked, children may not even go to the bathroom unaccompanied. During one class, a teacher asks a student to finish something from a locker in the locker in the teacher's own, who has tried to cut out his tongue with a razor blade. When the girl dares him, she returns to her seat and shouts "Die! Die! Die!" all over the desk, where others might have tried to reach the sick or whispering basket," writes Høeg. "But she never got up without permission."

Into Peter's bleak existence come two other borderlines who temper his first inklings of sentiment. One is August, a sickly psychotic boy who has murdered his abusive parents and in whose Peter takes an almost feverish interest. At one point, when August cannot get to sleep, he slips down to the school kitchen and inhales gas from the stove. Peter, who has followed him, catches the woozy boy back upstairs and puts him safely to bed. Groggily with the horror of what he has just witnessed, Peter tries to justify it. "Unconscionable pain alleviation," he says. "So the two of us are safe. It was just a matter of time. One had to say to oneself that it was because it was hard for him to fall asleep. That is itself was not disturbing, it was just a difficult time of the day for him. Time was the problem, one said to oneself."

Peter's other odd soul was the recently abandoned Katarina. In rare stolen moments



Høeg: Frequently in a private school

alone, they tell each other the stories of their lives. Together, the two come to realize that the borderlines are part of some kind of school experiment involving time—one that ultimately has tragic consequences. "We were held down so tightly as anyone can be held down by a clock," says Peter, alluding to the academy's extremely rigid schedule. "So hard, in fact, that if your shell was not very thick, then you did completely or partially to pieces."

Høeg traces his story back and forth between the narrator's adolescence and the present as Peter, now a husband and father in his late 30s, tries to make sense of it all. The early period ends when Peter, at 15, is adopted by a family named Høeg, which says to him that the novel is at least partly autobiographical (something which the book's publisher denies). In both the early and present-day passages of the book, the young and the adult Peter are continually mourning about the nature of time and happiness. Time, says the older Peter in retrospect, "was at the root of everything. It screwed him down. Like some kind of god."

As with *Smilla's Sense of Snow*, Høeg has written *Borderline* in such a way that the reader feels invited to the story yet removed from its barriers. The narratives of both books, like many abused or traumatized people, have adopted an attitude of detachment in order to protect themselves. For different reasons, both books are devastating to read, but the new novel delivers fewer rewards for the effort. Høeg has obviously devoted himself to the subject of time: the adult Peter muses confidently about the order of Albert Einstein's time, Newton, St. Augustine and Stephen Hawking, among others. But no matter how interesting they may be, the narrator's ramblings often slow down the story, detracting from what is otherwise a chilling tale of an underdog boy's trip through adolescence.

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